

The Iron Age

A Review of the Hardware and Metal Trades.

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Grand Entrance of the Vienna Exposition Building.

Our accompanying illustration of the principal entrance of the Exposition building, at Vienna, now nearly completed, gives a very correct idea of the artistic taste displayed in the design of the structure.

There will be no greater novelty about the exhibition than its decoration. No paint will be used, but jute (naturally a drab-colored substance) will be stamped with gold, and colors of various hues, and in every description of pattern. In most parts of the building the jute will be left plain; then the columns will be draped in gold and blue, or gold and red, or gold and black; the walls will be hung in drab and gold, or blue and drab. The decorations belong throughout to the Florentine Renaissance period, the style of which displays the utmost gorgeousness and magnificence.

American Marine Engines.

Of late years the many improvements in engineering construction have enabled boilers to be so built that a higher pressure of steam can with safety be carried. The direct result is the revival of compound engines, whose principles enable high pressure steam to be used to the best effect, and obviate certain practical difficulties which otherwise would prevent sea-going steamers from employing the full benefits of the expansive properties of steam. The engines now being constructed at Messrs. John Roach & Son's works in this city, for the Tennessee, are designed to replace the former machinery, which while in the ship proved utterly insufficient to propel her at a maximum speed of over 10 knots per hour. The new machinery is of the compound type. Four steam cylinders, being placed horizontally on one side of the shaft, act through the medium of two connecting rods backward on the shaft. The two cylinders for the use of the high pressure steam are 40 inches in diameter and 40 inches stroke. Between these and the shaft are placed the two low pressure cylinders, 78 inches in diameter, with the same stroke as the smaller ones. Opposite these, but on the other side of the propeller shaft, is the surface condenser, a massive structure having almost 8000 tubes, 7 feet 9 inches long and $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch in diameter. There are 10 boilers, the last one being nearly finished. These are cylindrical, with flat ends, each boiler having two furnaces and 164 tubes, 7 feet 9 inches long by $\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter. The total length of each boiler is 10 feet 6 inches; diameter, 11 feet 6 inches. The total grate surface of the 10 boilers is 478 square feet, and the total heating surface is upward of 13,000 square feet. The iron comprising the shell of these boilers is $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch in thickness. It is expected that these will supply steam of 65 pounds pressure, while the engine

make 60 turns in a minute, driving a large compound four-bladed propeller weighing upward of 10 tons. The builders have guaranteed that the ship will make 14 knots per hour, and consume but 80 tons of coal per 24 hours. This, for a vessel 375 feet long, can be considered very satisfactory. The superintendent, Mr. Henry Levrat, is the designer, and prides himself, so far, upon having planned the largest compound engine ever built in this country. At first sight, if one were to criticize the machinery of the Tennessee, it might be supposed that the boilers were rather small for the engine, but practice will soon test the skill of the designer and make all criticism useless.

One of the new iron vessels of the Pacific Mail line of steamers is at the dock, receiving a single compound engine imported by the Company from England. The hull of the ship was built in Chester, and is the largest iron steamer ever built on this side of the Atlantic. The

Colon, the new boat of the Pacific Mail, is well worth seeing, and any skilled in such matters can examine thoroughly the English style of building machinery. It is refreshing for an American to contemplate the fact that we have not entirely lost the art of which once we were almost at the head, and that we can, in the face of all predictions to the contrary, construct iron vessels at a price not quite ruinous.

Efflorescence of Silver.

An interesting paper was lately read before

on the surface of the globules; and so characteristic that in most instances there is no difficulty in recognizing the mineral from the specialty of the crystalline silver and color of the globule in a minute's time. Only minerals rich in silver emit it, generally over thirty per cent, but not all. Antimony prevents the appearance of silver. So, for instance, margarite would not show any silver until the antimony was driven out by longer blowing. Rapid cooling, by touching the globule with a needle or some other metallic instrument, increases or creates the efflorescence.

frigeration; forcibly cooled, it throws out silver, resembling silver drops that fall in a melted condition on a floor, assuming a flat shape.

A Boston journal makes the following extraordinary suggestion: Town clocks are not noted for unanimity, and in a large city it is difficult to find two alike. Each church or tower has its own and keeps its own time. The expense of building and maintaining large town clocks is very great. Both the expense and uncertainty of time could be avoided by the use of electricity. In place of expensive clocks in every steeple,

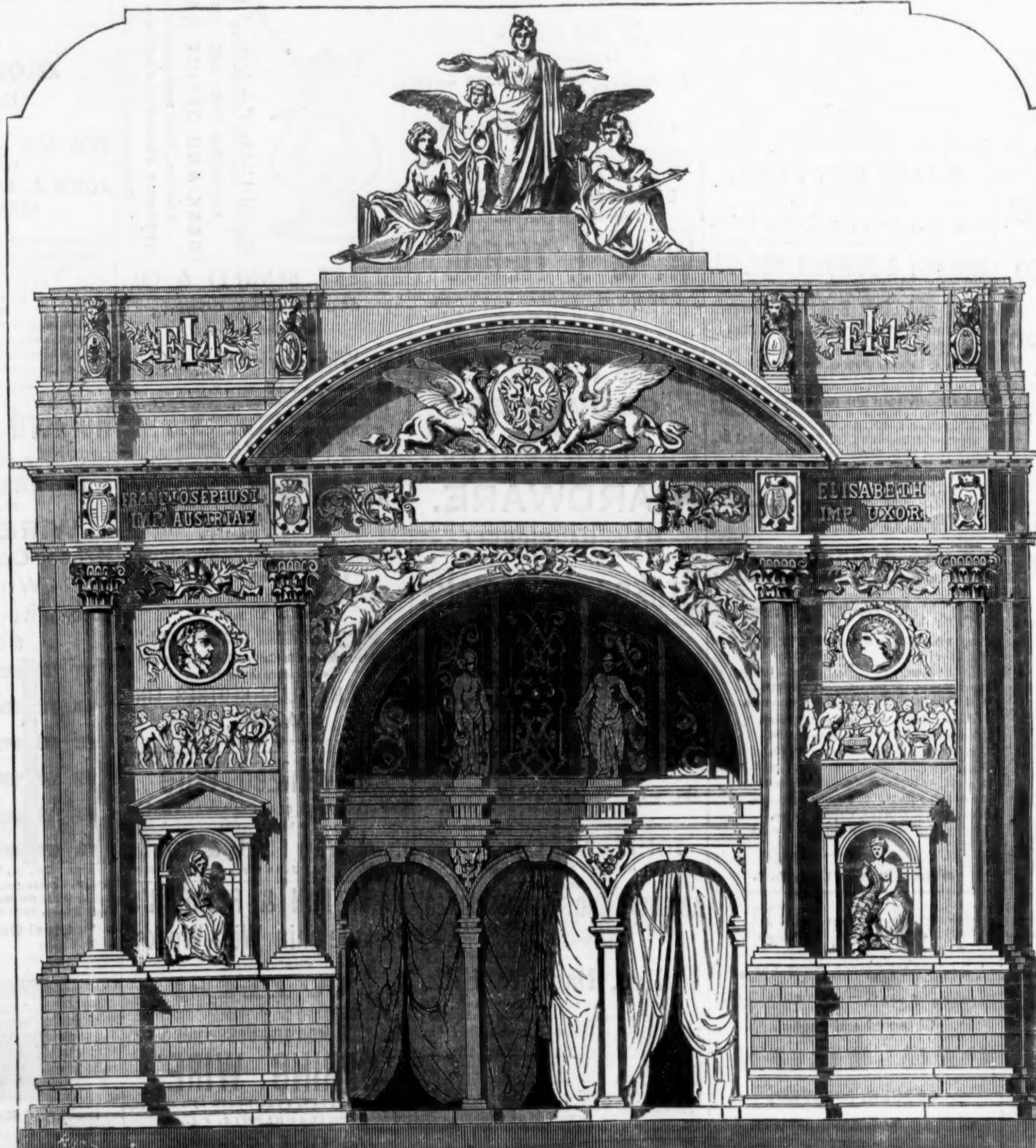
Diversified Industry in Philadelphia.

The *Ledger*, of Philadelphia, says: The most apt, felicitous and suggestive incident of the grand Centennial demonstration on Saturday night, was the entry of Disston's sawmakers with their transparency, "1776, saws imported; none made here—1876, saws exported; Philadelphia beats the world." This typifies in compact form the hundred years of progress of this country in the arts of peace that benefit mankind. It was among the complaints of the colonists that they were not permitted to engage

in the broad field of manufactures for which the country afforded so many resources. The owner of an iron ore bank could not lawfully fashion his iron into the implements he wanted to use or to sell. The iron had to go to England and come back in the shape of tools. The agriculturist could not lawfully make a hat from the fur taken from an animal caught on his own grounds. One of the early steam engines used for our water works was imported. Now, in how many of the useful products does this country, and even Philadelphia alone, "beat the world," as the sawmakers had it truly blazoned on their banner! Two other manufacturers of tools in this city have a fame for the superiority of their implements wherever superior tools are used. The best telegraph "insulator" in use goes out from a quiet little factory in this city to France and England. The "American locomotive," scores of specimens of which go from here, bear off the palm everywhere. There is not an "artificial limb" made abroad that compares favorably at all points with those which go out from some of our unpretending workshops. The products of our tube works, both of iron and of lead, are the best of their kind; and so of light iron railings and ornamental gas fixtures. The New World gave to the Old World the most approved printing machine, without which the great journals of England, France and Germany would have been crippled for many years. Great Britain was plodding along with her old cumbersome printing type moulds long after the United States had offered her greatly superior apparatus, which would do double the work in half the time. We believe they are still making fish-hooks by hand in England, while we have mechanism which takes pieces of wire in its delicate fingers and turns out perfect hooks as fast as grain falls from a mill hopper. The "solid-head" pin machine, the "pointed wood screw" machine, the spike machine, and a long array of other machines, confront us for notice, marshalled by the sewing machines and reaping machines, and other agricultural harvesters, with axes, shovels and other implements that "beat the world," none of which were made here in 1776. But it would be idle to begin the long catalogue with any hope of getting through it within the brief dimensions of a newspaper paragraph.

If Disston's men had been hammer men, instead of saw makers, they could not have hit the nail fairer or squarer on the head.

The *Reading Times and Dispatch* says: Within the past few days the experiment of rolling cast steel ingots into finished rails has been tried with great success at the rolling mills of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company. The steel was made at the Midvale Steel Works, near Philadelphia, by a process similar to the Siemens Martin, and cast into ingots of sections of about nine inches square, and furnished to the rolling mill to be heated and rolled into rails of the regular pattern, 68 lbs. per yard. The rolling was done on the rolls ordinarily worked for iron rails. In this case only twelve passes or grooves were used from the ingot to the rail, which has generally been deemed too rapid a reduction for the steel, and very severe on the machinery, and both were equal to the test.



GRAND ENTRANCE OF THE VIENNA EXPOSITION BUILDING.

the Microscopical Society of San Francisco, by Mr. G. Kustel, mining engineer and metallurgist, from which we take the following: There is a peculiarity observable in some silver minerals, principally of sulphurates, when small particles are melted into a globule on charcoal before the blow-pipe. After being melted to a perfectly spherical form, the blowing is stopped, and the globule will appear coated with crystalline metallic silver on cooling. The minerals exhibiting the phenomenon are the following: silver glance, selenide of silver, enclarite, stephanite, brittle silver ore (melanglance), margarite, and rich falher. The petzite (from Melone's mine), although among the silver minerals, emits only the pure gold in shape of microscopical globules before the mineral melts. Under the microscope, the efflorescence of silver appears wonderfully beautiful, but the interesting part in it is that different minerals show a different aggregation of silver particles

The different appearances of the silver, as observed under the microscope, is about as follows: Silver glance shows isolated round flowers, like stars, often crowded together; silver-copper glance (stephanite), if very rich (fifty per cent silver), exhibits almost the same characteristics; poorer specimens emit the silver in a shape resembling fine moss. Both minerals give dark, steel-blue globules. The last mineral, with copper largely prevalent, coats the globule with copper, which oxidizes on the surface, causing a dull, rough appearance. Melanglance gives a lead-gray, lustrous globule, showing, if cooled forcibly, from the touching point, long radial threads adhering to the surface of the globule. Selenide of silver makes long, beautiful crystalline leaves. Enclarite (selenide of silver and copper) emits the silver in isolated, thick, upright threads, like the natural silver threads. Margarite, after the antimony is blown off, displays brilliant, rainbow colors during re-

one small clock could move the hands on a hundred dials scattered over miles of territory, or, in fact, over a whole State. One good clock in a secure place could deliver every beat of its pendulum through wires to every clock in the town, and all would move absolutely together. Nothing would be needed in the towers but the dials, the hands and some simple machinery to move them under the electric influence from the central clock. Any one who could afford those could have a clock that would require no attention and be always right. The same wires that sound the fire alarm could be used, and the motive clock could be kept in the City Hall. The number of clocks could be enormously multiplied, and all could be maintained for less money than it now takes to keep the few uncertain clocks that we have in our cities in order.

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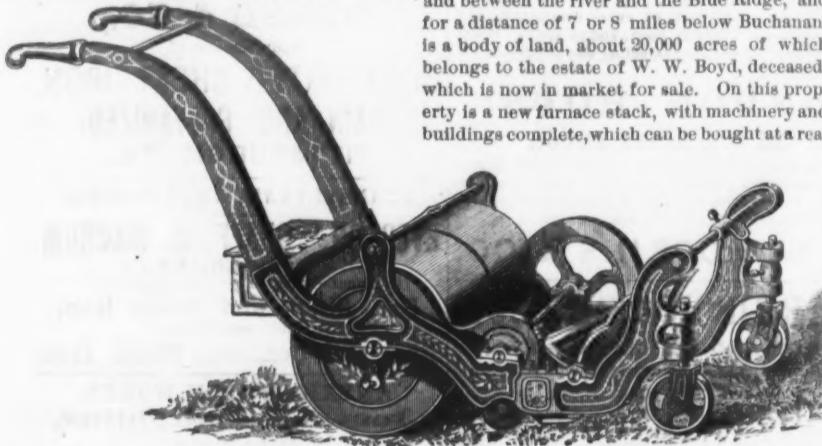
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Hill's Archimedean Lawn Mower.

While lawn mowers are acknowledged to be of foreign origin, the improvements which have been made in them in our own country are highly creditable to American genius. The principle of cutting grass by the use of a stationary and a revolving knife has long been employed in the manufacture of these machines, both in Europe and in this country; but it was not until about the year 1868 that they were so constructed as to be of much practical value as hand machines, as they were both too heavy to be easily operated by one man, and also too high-priced to be generally used for small lawns or garden plots.

Mr. Hill's improvements consist mainly in the substitution of velocity for weight or traction power, by which means less labor is required, while at the same time sufficient force is accumulated in the revolving cutter to enable the machine to pass easily over any ordinary obstructions with little inconvenience to the



HILL'S ARCHIMEDEAN LAWN MOWER.

operator. Although the principle of Mr. Hill's original machine has not been materially changed, great improvements have been made in the mechanical construction by the Hill's Archimedean Lawn Mower Company, of Hartford, Conn.

It is claimed for this mower that it has a balanced frame, and that by means of its jointed or moveable handle it readily adapts itself to uneven surfaces, which the knife is prevented from striking by an adjustable shoe, which also regulates the height at which the grass is cut. By the use of emery the knives are put in order without being removed from their place, by simply raising the machine from the ground and reversing the motion. The gear-wheels are covered, thus preventing clogging by any foreign substance. On this machine is also used a solid revolving cutter with steel edges, for which is claimed ease of clearing itself, as well as strength and durability. These points, combined with good workmanship, render this one of the most desirable lawn mowers in the market.

They are manufacturing this year a small machine, cutting ten inches wide, for small lawns, cemetery lots, croquet grounds, and for gardens and grounds where there are shrubs or plants, it being furnished with a guard in front of the knife, which enables the grass to be cut close around the roots without injury to the plant.

Our illustration presents the pony and horse machines, which are similar in construction, and, it is believed, fully equal to their hand-machines, which are too well known in every section of the country to need any further recommendation.

Virginia Ores.

We have received from Mr. H. C. Snyder, of Buchanan, Va., an account of the ores of Allegheny and Botetourt counties, in that State. Mr. Snyder is a practical furnace builder and worker, and has for a number of years been a resident in the section of which he speaks. In view of the effort that is now being made to open the James River and Kanawha Canal, this region becomes important to Western furnace men. The vein of ore near Buchanan, Botetourt county, he writes us, "is not of recent discovery; a portion was opened some years ago, yet recent developments have established the fact that the extent in length is at least three miles, and the probability of its extending nine or ten miles: my own impression is that it does. My reason for this supposition is, that at the point (ten miles) is located the celebrated Retreat ore bank, now owned by Joseph H. Shultz & Co. This vein of ore is on the east slope of Purgatory Mountain; its course is northeast and southwest; it dips with the slope of the mountain at about 65 to 68 degrees; it is in a hard sandstone formation, and lies between a roof rock and a foot rock, and, so far as developed, the two rocks are about 23 to 25 feet apart. The solid part of the vein of ore, so far as developed, varies from three to eight or nine feet thick. The balance of the fissure is filled up with clay and ore. The natural drainage is, on an average, about 200 feet. The elevation above the James River is probably 400 to 450 feet. This ore is not a deposit from the surface, but has unquestionably been injected or forced up by some internal pressure, and caused, no doubt, by heat, as the rock in the vicinity bear unmistakable marks of heat. This being so, the probability is that the vein thickens with depth."

"The character of the ore is brown and red hematite; several fair samples have been assayed, and the analysis was in one case 62%, another 64, and another, of the best brown and red mixed, 68 per cent. From these analyses it will produce in the furnace about 50 per cent. of iron.

"Purgatory Mountain is not over, say, 3/4 miles, through from east to west, at what may be

termed its base. And there is also a well defined vein of brown and yellow hematite ore in the whole length of the western slope, and this vein also extends from the point of the mountain at the James River to the Retreat ore bank. This is also being fully developed by Messrs. Shultz & Co., who own the property, and intend erecting a furnace this year. This company owns very valuable ore lands both in this (Botetourt) county and Allegheny county, any of which is for sale.

"This point is situated at the present terminus of the James River and Kanawha Canal, 50 miles above Lynchburg, and 200 miles above Richmond. Freight about \$1.50 to \$1.75 per ton to Richmond. Tolls on iron ore, 38 cents per ton of 2000 lbs.

In connection with the above, I will state further that this section of the State has an abundance of iron ore of the best quality that is already developed, and unmistakable indications that the hundredth part has as yet not been developed. On the east side of the river, and between the river and the Blue Ridge, and for a distance of 7 or 8 miles below Buchanan, is a body of land, about 20,000 acres of which belongs to the estate of W. W. Boyd, deceased, which is now in market for sale. On this property is a new furnace stack, with machinery and buildings complete, which can be bought at a rea-

Lewis, Oliver & Phillips' Patent Bolt Machine.

We present to our readers the accompanying illustrations of bolt machines made by Messrs. Lewis, Oliver & Phillips, of Pittsburgh, manufacturers of Iron Bolts and Heavy Hardware.

The first illustration represents the Bolt Header, consisting mainly of a cast iron body, fly wheels, lift, rocking and shear levers and the heading ram. The castings are well fitted up with gun-metal and steel, and the metal parts, subjected to friction, are chilled. The dies, made of steel, are so constructed and held in position as to admit of being dressed down a great number of times. The machine is free from cogs and springs, thus securing simplicity, strength, durability, compactness and regular motion. The pulley, driven by a six-inch belt, revolves the shaft, the cams on which drive forward the heading ram and raise and lower the levers. The side lever gives motion to the one containing the gripping die. The connection between the side and rocking levers is made by a $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch wrought iron pin, which is in reality the safeguard of the machine; for, if too large a bolt should be fed to the dies, this pin will bend before a casting breaks.

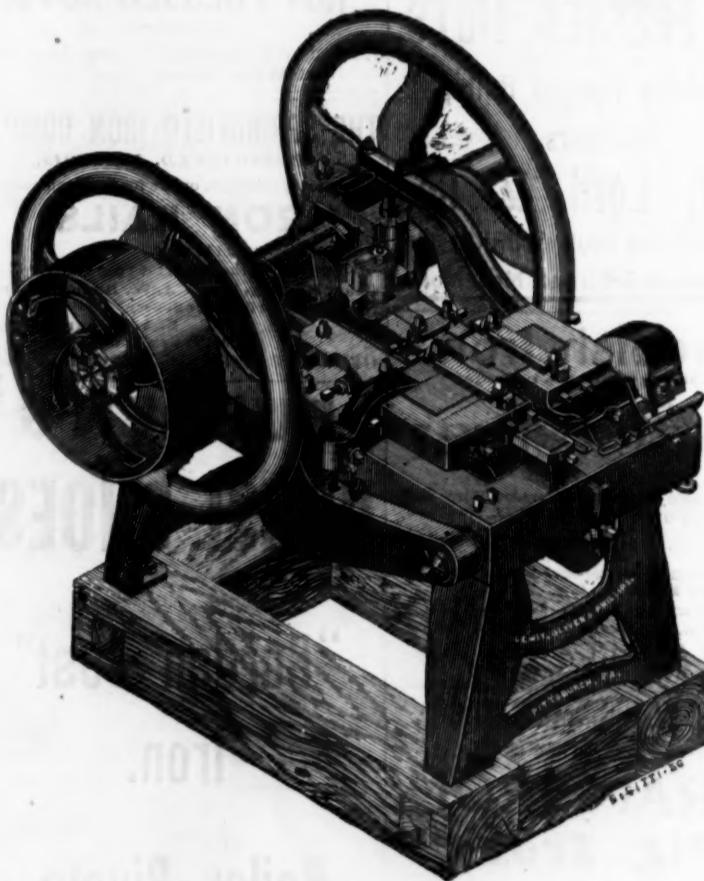
This machine makes all kinds of bolts and rivets, and heads from 3-16 to 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ inch iron. A simple change of dies, occupying only five minutes, and which can be made by a boy, enables the operator to make either square, hexagon, T, oval, round, countersunk, or, in fact, any shaped head. And further, any length of bolt can be made without changing the dies.

With one boy heating and one heading, the machine makes in ten hours: 1800 to 2000 square head bolts 1 inch in diameter; 2000 to 2500, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch; 3000 to 3500, $\frac{5}{8}$ inch; 4500 to 5000, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch; 5500 to 6000, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch.

Square and hexagon heads are made in the same dies, and can be made alternately. In making track and splice-bar bolts, long rods are heated and fed. In this way from 6000 to 10,000 are made in ten hours.

For beauty of finish and symmetry of form, the work turned out by this machine is, we believe, unsurpassed by any in the world. A convenient and substantial furnace accompanies the machine.

The next illustration represents their Double Self-acting Screw Cutter. A three-inch belt drives the cone pulley and shaft, by which motion is imparted to the cutting heads. These are made of wrought iron and contain the dies, which are made of the best quality of steel. The jaws work upon fulcrums a little beyond the center of the cutting head, and are closed by a conical wedge in rear, which is the nut for the shaft upon which the small wheels are seen in the rear part of the drawing. By turning this shaft it is made to project any desired length beyond the wedge. A bolt being cut advances until it meets the projecting shaft, which, together with the wedge, it forces back until the wedge is removed from between the jaws, when they are thrown open by the springs seen upon their exterior. The jaws, after being closed by the lever seen on the side, are ready for another



BOLT HEADER.

mill stones. So unremunerative has the business become, that we are informed that the Catawissa Manufacturing Company, who make more bar iron than all the Philadelphia mills combined, have already stopped work at their Fern Dale mill, and unless some change takes place in the cost of their materials, or an advance occurs in bar iron, this stoppage will speedily be followed by the shutting down of their mills at Catawissa and Allentown. We hope this may be averted, as the stoppage of these large works during this inclement season must carry distress into many a family.

"Tertiary" Coal of good quality and in paying quantities is being mined at Carbondale and at other points along the line of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad, in Osage County, Kansas. These coal beds lie from five to thirty feet below the surface, the veins having an average thickness of about eighteen inches.

This firm also manufacture a Three Spindle, Self-oiling Nut Tapper, a Bolt Pointer and Shears.

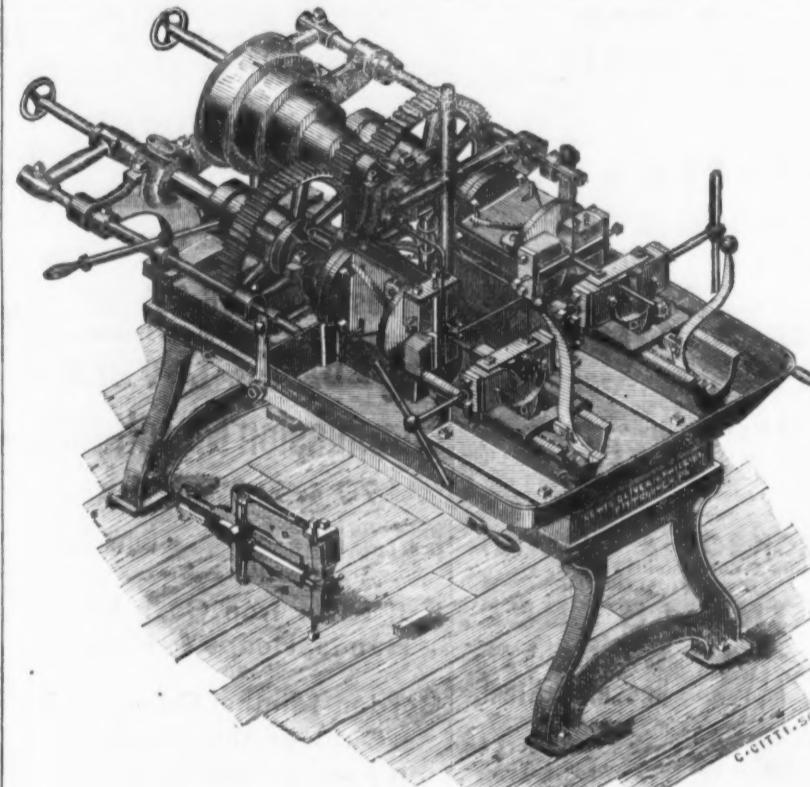
All of these machines have been subjected to rigid tests in the works of Messrs. Lewis, Oliver & Phillips, where about 30 of each have been in constant operation for a number of years, and all the improvements possible have been made

from time to time; and we are informed that, so high is the favor with which they are regarded, that more than three-fourths of the car shops and most of the leading railroads in this country and Canada are using them.

Messrs. Lewis, Oliver & Phillips employ at their rolling mills and their bolt factory, foundry and machine shop nearly 3000 workmen. In addition to being the largest bolt manufacturers in the country, they make all kinds of Merchant Bar and Bundle Iron, Strap and T, Screw and Strap, Screw-Hook and Eye Hinges, Bridge and Roof Bolts, patent headed and plain Harrow Teeth, and their new line of Patented Wagon Hardware, which has been illustrated in the columns of *The Iron Age*.

The Iron Deposits at Ottawa, Canada.

A correspondent says: At a time when iron, one of the greatest agents in promoting our modern civilization, has advanced enormously in price, it may be well to direct attention to the capability of our own country to take its place among the great iron producing nations of the world. It is true that the Ottawa country is destitute of coal, and so far as its own chief resources can contribute each to the other's development, must rely upon charcoal for smelting purpose. Our unsurpassed water communications, however, will enable the ironmaster to import American anthracite, or Nova Scotia coal, at rates which will empower him to com-



DOUBLE SCREW CUTTER.

They also pay particular attention to rolling peculiar and odd shapes of iron. Their capacity is over 20,000 tons iron and 10,000 tons Bolts, Nuts, Washers, Hinges, Wagon Hardware, etc., per annum. They are represented in New York by Mr. H. B. Newhall, 11 Warren street.

The following, which we find in the *Baltimore Sun*, will be interesting to travelers by rail, who are compelled to put up with such accommodations as are usually furnished them:

"An elegant 'palace car' has just been completed at the Mount Clare Works of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, designed as a coach of state for the use of the president and directors of the road. The establishment is one of the most elegant jobs ever turned out in Baltimore, reflecting great credit upon the skill and workmanship of our artisans. The car is to bear the name of 'Maryland.' It is painted a beautiful buff color, is mounted on improved six-wheel trucks, and is provided with patent bumpers, patent air-brakes and other inventions calculated to make traveling less tedious, and more safe than ever. The interior is divided into four apartments—the first a sitting room, in black walnut and birdseye maple, gilded, with green and crimson upholstering, a rich velvet carpet, luxurious furniture, lounges and armchairs, and other suitable articles. The second compartment is fitted up for a bed-chamber, containing a handsome low bedstead of oiled maple, richly carved, hung with heavy damask curtains; a lounge covered with salmon-colored silk, figured; a dressing case of exquisite workmanship. Adjoining the chamber is a bathroom, and beyond is the dining-room, arranged to accommodate, if desired, ten or twelve diners. The tables and chairs are stationary, finished in black walnut. The kitchen, one of the most important features of any establishment, occupies the rear end of the car, and is complete in its arrangements for cooking, with range and water-tanks, utensils, &c. The car throughout is of maple and walnut finish, gilded and carved, with plate glass and splendid argand lamps, the whole costing, it is estimated, upward of \$45,000—a model and a marvel of splendor and elegance of workmanship."

The deposit of ore which promises to be next in importance in the vicinity of Ottawa, is one in the township of Templeton, now undergoing development. It is well situated for mining, and but five miles distant from a shipping point, also on the Gatineau River. It is confidently anticipated that this will prove an extensive deposit, and be a rival to the Hull ores, if not in quantity certainly in quality. Another deposit of iron in the neighborhood of the Grenville Canal, on the north shore of the Ottawa, is also attracting notice. It is about four and a half miles from the Ottawa River, and is being developed by its proprietors. To enable the reader to judge of the relative qualities of these ores, it will be necessary merely to place their analyses side by side with that of one of the best Swedish ores, the Dannemora:

	Danne-	Mora.	Hull.	Temple-	Gren-
	Iron.	Iron.	Iron.	ton.	vile.
Peroxide of Iron...	37.55	66.30	50.87	73.28	
Protode of Iron...	58.98	17.78			
Oxide of Manganese...	10	45			trace.
Lime, Silicate...	28	76			
Magnesia do...	61	15			1.34
Lime, Carbonate...	2.66	13			8.04
Silica...	12.54	10.44	1.94	12.70	
Graphite...	71				
Phosphorus...	trace.	0.15	0.06		1.13
Sulphur...	04	28	02		trace.
Alumina...	29		49		72
Carbonic Acid...	12				...
Titanic Acid...	11			3.84*	
Water, &c...	11			1.09	1.30

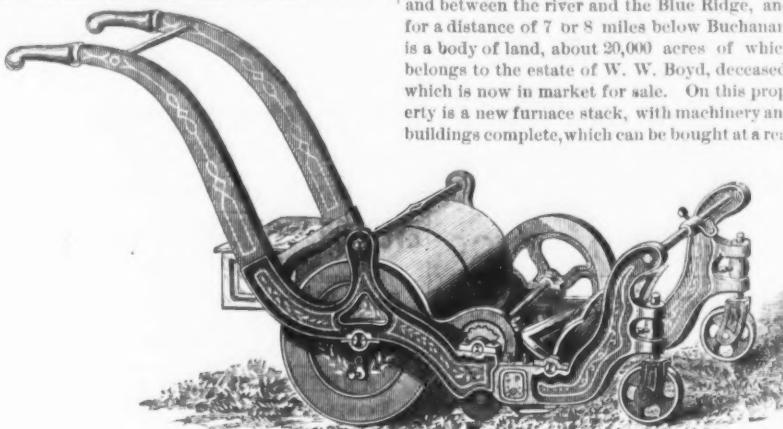
Pure Metallic Iron... 62.06 55.79 64.02 54.35

* A mean of three analyses of this ore give Titanium Acid 1.97.

Hill's Archimedean Lawn Mower.

While lawn mowers are acknowledged to be of foreign origin, the improvements which have been made in them in our own country are highly creditable to American genius. The principle of cutting grass by the use of a stationary and a revolving knife has long been employed in the manufacture of these machines, both in Europe and in this country; but it was not until about the year 1868 that they were so constructed as to be of much practical value as hand machines, as they were both too heavy to be easily operated by one man, and also too high-priced to be generally used for small lawns or garden plots.

Mr. Hill's improvements consist mainly in the substitution of velocity for weight or traction power, by which means less labor is required, while at the same time sufficient force is accumulated in the revolving cutter to enable the machine to pass easily over any ordinary obstructions with little inconvenience to the



HILL'S ARCHIMEDEAN LAWN MOWER.

operator. Although the principle of Mr. Hill's original machine has not been materially changed, great improvements have been made in the mechanical construction by the Hill's Archimedean Lawn Mower Company, of Hartford, Conn.

It is claimed for this mower that it has a balanced frame, and that by means of its jointed or moveable handle it readily adapts itself to uneven surfaces, which the knife is prevented from striking by an adjustable shoe, which also regulates the height at which the grass is cut. By the use of emery the knives are put in order without being removed from their place, by simply raising the machine from the ground and reversing the motion. The gear-wheels are covered, thus preventing clogging by any foreign substance. On this machine is also used a solid revolving cutter with steel edges, for which is claimed ease of clearing itself, as well as strength and durability. These points, combined with good workmanship, render this one of the most desirable lawn mowers in the market.

They are manufacturing this year a small machine, cutting ten inches wide, for small lawns, cemetery lots, croquet grounds, and for gardens and grounds where there are shrubs or plants, it being furnished with a guard in front of the knife, which enables the grass to be cut close around the roots without injury to the plant.

Our illustration presents the pony and horse machines, which are similar in construction, and, it is believed, fully equal to their hand-machines, which are too well known in every section of the country to need any further recommendation.

Virginia Ores.

We have received from Mr. H. C. Snyder, of Buchanan, Va., an account of the ores of Allegheny and Botetourt counties, in that State. Mr. Snyder is a practical furnace builder and worker, and has for a number of years been a resident in the section of which he speaks. In view of the effort that is now being made to open the James River and Kanawha Canal, this region becomes important to Western furnace men. The vein of ore near Buchanan, Botetourt county, he writes us, "is not of recent discovery; a portion was opened some years ago, yet recent developments have established the fact that the extent in length is at least three miles, and the probability of its extending nine or ten miles: my own impression is that it does. My reason for this supposition is, that at the point (ten miles) is located the celebrated Retreat ore bank, now owned by Joseph H. Shultz & Co. This vein of ore is on the east slope of Purgatory Mountain; its course is northeast and southwest; it dips with the slope of the mountain at about 65 to 68 degrees; it is in a hard sandstone formation, and lies between a roof rock and a foot rock, and, so far as developed, the two rocks are about 22 to 25 feet apart. The solid part of the vein of ore, so far as developed, varies from three to eight or nine feet thick. The balance of the fissure is filled up with clay and ore. The natural drainage is, on an average, about 200 feet. The elevation above the James River is probably 400 to 450 feet. This ore is not a deposit from the surface, but has unquestionably been injected or forced up by some internal pressure, and caused, no doubt, by heat, as the rock in the vicinity bears unmistakable marks of heat. This being so, the probability is that the vein thickens with depth."

The character of the ore is brown and red hematite; several fair samples have been assayed, and the analysis was in one case 62%, another 64, and another, of the best brown and red mixed, 68 per cent. From these analyses it will produce in the furnace about 50 per cent. of iron.

"Purgatory Mountain is not over, say, 1/2 miles, through from east to west, at what may be an average thickness of about eighteen inches.

Lewis, Oliver & Phillips' Patent Bolt Machine.

We present to our readers the accompanying illustrations of bolt machines made by Messrs. Lewis, Oliver & Phillips, of Pittsburgh, manufacturers of Iron Bolts and Heavy Hardware.

The first illustration represents the Bolt Header, consisting mainly of a cast iron body, fly wheels, lift, rocking and shear levers and the heading ram. The castings are well fitted up with gun-metal and steel, and the metal parts, subjected to friction, are chilled. The dies, made of steel, are so constructed and held in position as to admit of being dressed down a great number of times. The machine is free from cogs and springs, thus securing simplicity, strength, durability, compactness and regular motion. The pulley, driven by a six-inch belt, revolves the shaft, the cams on which drive forward the heading ram and raise and lower the levers. The side lever gives motion to the one containing the gripping die. The connection between the side and rocking levers is made by a 3/8-inch wrought iron pin, which is in reality the safeguard of the machine; for, if too large a bolt should be fed to the dies, this pin will bend before a casting breaks.

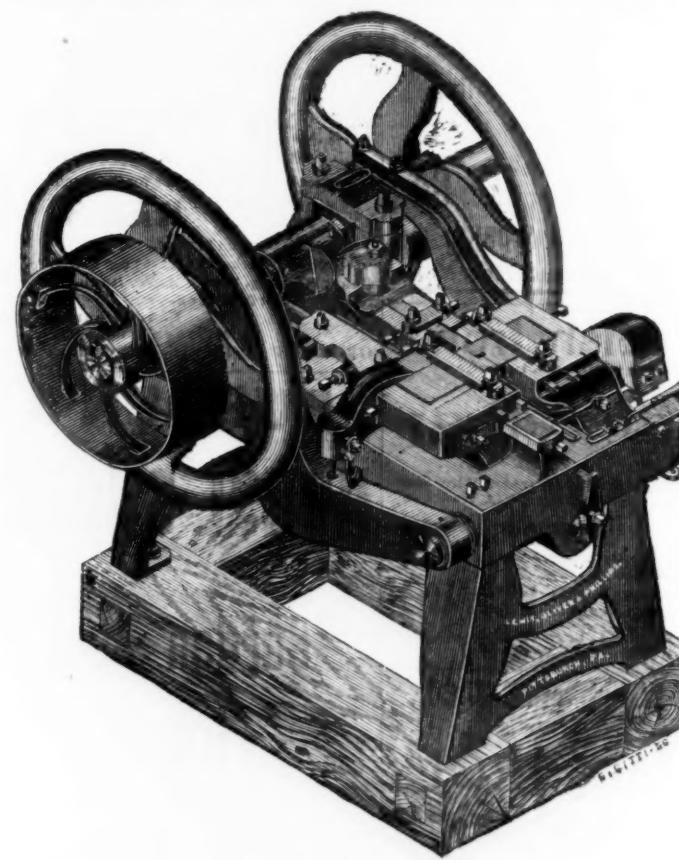
This machine makes all kinds of bolts and rivets, and heads from 3/16 to 1 1/4 inch iron. A simple change of dies, occupying only five minutes, and which can be made by a boy, enables the operator to make either square, hexagon, T, oval, round, countersunk, or, in fact, any shaped head. And further, any length of bolt can be made without changing the dies.

With one boy heating and one heading, the machine makes in ten hours: 1800 to 2000 square head bolts 1 inch in diameter; 2000 to 2500, 3/8 inch; 3000 to 3500, 3/4 inch; 4500 to 5000, 5/8 inch; 5500 to 6000, 1 1/2 inch.

Square and hexagon heads are made in the same dies, and can be made alternately. In making track and splice-bar bolts, long rods are heated and fed. In this way from 6000 to 10,000 are made in ten hours.

For beauty of finish and symmetry of form, the work turned out by this machine is, we believe, unsurpassed by any in the world. A convenient and substantial furnace accompanies the machine.

Our next illustration represents their Double Self-acting Screw Cutter. A three-inch belt drives the cone pulley and shaft, by which motion is imparted to the cutting heads. These are made of wrought iron and contain the dies, which are made of the best quality of steel. The jaws work upon fulcrums a little beyond the center of the cutting head, and are closed by a conical wedge in rear, which is the nut for the shaft upon which the small wheels are seen in the rear part of the drawing. By turning this shaft it is made to project any desired length beyond the wedge. A bolt being cut advances until it meets the projecting shaft, which, together with the wedge, it forces back until the wedge is removed from between the jaws, when they are thrown open by the springs seen upon their exterior. The jaws, after being closed by the lever seen on the side, are ready for another



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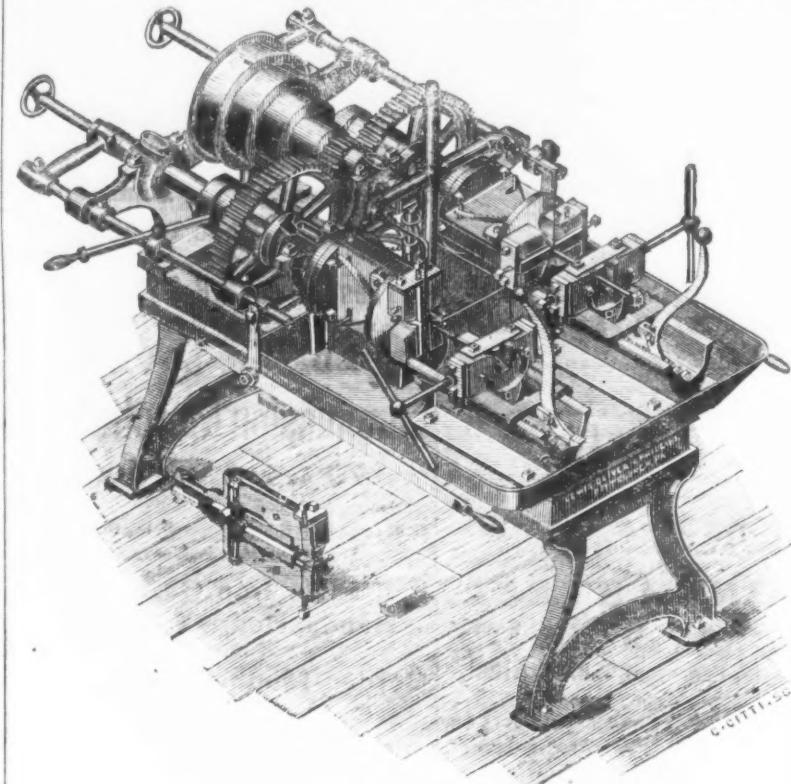
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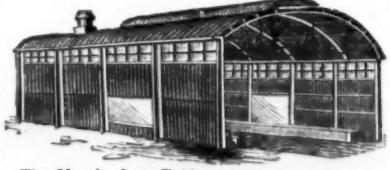
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The *London Railway News* says: "The novelty of a miniature locomotive engine and carriages running upon a miniature railway, with a gauge of only 18 inches, and doing good service, can now be seen in the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich. The rail which at present extends only from the west wharf to the back of the shell foundry, is composed of iron plates cast in the royal laboratory, each of the plates being six feet long and weighing 3 1/2 cwt. They are laid simply on a bed of concrete, keyed together to preserve their position, and the line appears firm and durable, without the aid of sleepers or bolts, such as are employed in the construction of ordinary railways. It was designed and carried out by Col. Scratchley, Royal Engineers, Inspector of Works at the Arsenal. The locomotive, a little engine called the Lord Raglan, draws a number of trucks, laden with about twenty tons of metal, and turns some sharp curves with the utmost ease. It is proposed to extend the line throughout the Arsenal, and supersede as far as possible the transit of heavy loads by contract horses."

It is stated that 104 patents have been granted in this country upon car axles and wheels having the idea in view, of making car wheels to run independently, as in turning a curve,

	Danne.	Hull.	Templeton.	Grenville.
Peroxide of Iron	27.55	66.20	90.87	75.20
Protosilicate of Iron	58.93	17.78	—	—
Iron and Manganese	—	25	—	trace.
Lime, Silicate	—	70	—	—
Magnesia do	—	45	—	1.34
Lime, Carbonate	—	2.66	13	8.04
Silica	12.54	10.44	1.34	12.50
Graphite	—	71	—	—
Phosphorus	—	0.15	0.06	1.13
Sulphur	—	28	0.02	trace.
Alumina	—	29	—	72
Carbonic Acid	—	—	—	—
Titanic Acid	—	—	3.84*	—
Water, &c.	—	11	1.09	1.30
Pure Metallic Iron	62.96	58.78	64.02	54.85

*A mean of three analyses of this ore give Titanic Acid 1.77.

Iron.	Iron.	Iron.	Iron.	Iron.
NEW YORK.	NEW YORK.	NEW YORK.	NEW YORK.	NEW YORK.
GAM'L G. SMITH & CO., IRON WAREHOUSE, 312, 314 & 316 Pearl Street, New York. Importers and Dealers in IRON AND STEEL, COMMON AND REFINED BAR IRON, SHEET AND PLATE IRON, Rod, Hoop, Band, Scroll, Horse Shoe, Angle and Tee Iron, PIG IRON, OLD RAILS, WROUGHT IRON BEAMS. Iron of all sizes and shapes made to order.	Conklin & Huerstel, Successors to M. W. DEAN, "IRON MERCHANTS," 99 Market Slip, N. Y. Keep constantly on hand a full assortment of English and American Refined Iron, COMMON IRON, Band, Hoop and Scroll Iron, Norway Nail Rods and Shapes, Cast, Spring, Toe Calk and Tire Steel. Goods Shipped free of Cartage.	BIGELOW & JOHNSTON, Iron and Steel Rails, PIG AND SCRAP IRON, OLD RAILS. 48 Pine St., Rooms 9 and 10.	S. W. HOPKINS & CO., 57 Broadway, New York. WE BEG TO ANNOUNCE TO AMERICAN ROLLING Mills and Iron Manufacturers, that we are constantly receiving, from both American and Foreign Railroad Companies, heavy shipments of OLD RAILS,	Pittsburgh Foundry. A. GARRISON & CO., Manufacturers of CHILLED AND SAND ROLLS, Of acknowledged superior quality, at the lowest current prices. Ore and Clay Crushers, and Rolling Mill Castings, of every description. Office and Warehouse, 209 Liberty Street. PITTSBURGH, PA.
PIERSONS & CO. S Iron Warehouse, No. 24 Broadway and 77 & 79 New St., NEW YORK, Importers and Dealers in IRON & STEEL of every description. Agents for the Ulster Iron, Nevers, II. Burden & Co. & S., and Borden & Lovell Irons. A. Norton & Son's Steel. Keep constantly in stock a full assortment of Common and Refined Iron, Bagnall's Ulster, Burden's and H. B. & S. Iron. Bands, Rods, Hoops, Scrolls, Oval and Oval Rods, Horse Shoe Iron, Sheet and Plate Iron, Nail Rods, Norway Shapes, etc. Cast, Spring, Toe Calk, Tire, Sleigh Shoe and Plow Steel, etc., at lowest market rates.	WM. GARDNER, 575 Grand, 414 Madison & 302 Monroe Sts. Bar, Hoop, Rod, Band and Horse Shoe Iron. AGENT FOR Best Norway N. R. & Shapes, Spring, Toe Calk, Tire & Sleigh Shoe Steel.	HAZARD & JONES, BROKERS IN IRON & METALS, 212 Pearl St., New York.	SCRAP IRON, both Wrought and Cast, of every description, and have always a supply at dock, and to arrive. Great care is taken in properly selecting and classifying the same by our LONDON HOUSE, 58 Old Broad Street, who give this department of our business their personal attention. When preferred, we are ready to execute orders from abroad at a sterling price, charging a commission for our services.	REESE & CO., Manufacturers of CORRUGATED SHEET IRON, PLAIN AND GALVANIZED. PITTSBURGH PA.,
JACKSON & CHACE, 206 & 208 Franklin St., N. Y. Importers and Dealers in IRON and STEEL. Agents for JOHN A. GRISWOLD & CO'S Bessemer Steel. Agents for UNION IRON MILLS, Wrought Iron Beams, ANGLE and T IRON, Special Irons for Bridge and Architectural Work.	BORDEN & LOVELL, Commission Merchants 70 & 71 West St., Wm. Borden, L. L. N. Lovell, Jr. Agents for the sale of Fall River Iron Co.'s Nails, Bands, Hoops & Rods, AND Borden Miners Company's Cumberland Coals.	WILLIAM H. PETIT, BROKER IN IRON, 72 Wall Street, N. Y. JAMES WILLIAMSON & CO., SCOTCH AND AMERICAN	S. W. HOPKINS & CO. HARRISON & GILLOON IRON AND METAL DEALERS, 58, 600, 602 WATER ST., and 302, 304, 306 CHERRY ST., NEW YORK.	PENNSYLVANIA IRON WORKS. EVERSON, GRAFF & MACRUM. Pittsburgh, Pa., Manufacturers of every description of Bar, Sheet and Small Iron, Make a specialty in Fine and Common Sheet Iron.
ABEEL BROTHERS, Successors to JOHN H. ABEEL & CO., Iron Merchants, 190 South Street and 365 Water, N. Y.	GILEAD A. SMITH & CO., Bartholomew House, Bank, London. No. 30 Pine St., N. Y. P. O. Box No. 5070.	PIG IRON, No. 69 Wall St., New York.	JAMES T. MAGUIRE, MANUFACTURES PIG IRON, Wrought and Cast Scrap Iron, 457 and 459 WATER STREET, And 235 SOUTH STREET, near Pike, NEW YORK.	AMERICAN IRON WORKS. Jones & Laughlins, Manufacturers of Bar Plate and Sheet Iron, Nails, Ships and Railroad Spikes, RR. Splice Bars and Bolts, Celebrated Cold-Rolled Shafting, Platos, Rods, &c. PITTSBURGH, PA.,
ULSTER IRON A full assortment of all sizes constantly on hand. English and American Refined Iron of choicest brands. Common Iron. Band, Hoop and Scroll Iron. Sheet Iron. Norway Nail Rods. Norway Shapes. Cast, Spring and Tire Steel, etc.	RAIL ROAD IRON In Ports of New York & New Orleans. Steel Rails of most approved Makers. Importers of Old Iron Rails for re-rolling. Bills of Exchange on Imperial Bank, London.	RAIL ROAD IRON Edward Page & Co., (Successors to Fryberg & Co.) Swedish & Norway Iron, Boston Rolling Mill, SHAPES, NAIL RODS AND WIRE RODS, OFFICES: 17 Batterymarch Street, BOSTON, 22 William Street, NEW YORK, 205 1-2 Walnut Street, PHILA. GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN.	RAIL ROAD IRON Fuller, Lord & Co., BOONTON IRON WORKS, 139 Greenwich Street, New York.	40 42 and 44 River Street CHICAGO. Stocks of Cold-Rolled Shafting in store and for sale by Messrs. FULLER, DANA & FITZ, Boston, Mass. W. G. GEORGE, DAVIS & CO., New York. MESSRS. PEIRCE & WHALING, Milwaukee, Wis.
Alfred R. Whitney, Importer and Dealer in IRON AND STEEL, Well assorted stock of Angle and T Iron, To 30 feet in length, constantly on hand. 56, 58 & 60 Hudson, and 49, 51 & 53 Thomas Sts., N. Y. English and American Manufacturers' AGENT FOR IRON Used in the Construction of Fire-Proof Buildings, Bridges, &c. Books containing Cuts of all Iron now made, sent by mail. Sample Pieces at office. Please address 58 Hudson Street.	AMERICAN Galvanized Sheet Irons AND AGENT FOR THE Easton Sheet Iron Works, Easton, Pa. MANUFACTURER OF Best Bloom, Charcoal & Refined Sheet Iron. Galvanized Telegraph and Fence Wire Galvanized and Tinned Roofing and Siding Nails. Galvanized Ten Kettles. Galvanized Hoop Iron of all widths. Galvanized Staples. Corrugated Iron for Roofing, plain or gal'd. Galvanized Bars and Chains for Cemetery Railing.	BOONTON CUT NAILS, HOT PRESSED NUTS, Machine Forged Bolts, Washers.	OXFORD IRON CO., Cut Nails and Spikes, R. R. Spikes, Splice Bars and Nuts and Bolts, 81, 83 & 85 Washington, near Bector St., N. Y. COLLIER & SCRANTON, Agents.	SOLAR IRON WORKS.
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A. B. Warner & Son, IRON MERCHANTS, 28 & 29 West and 52 Washington Sts. BOILER PLATE, Boiler Tubes, Angle, Tee & Girder Iron, Boiler and Tank Rivets. Sole Agents for the celebrated "Eureka," Pennocks, "Wawasset," Lukens, Brands of Iron. Also all descriptions of Plate, Sheet and Gasometer Iron. Special attention to Locomotive Iron. Fire Box Iron a specialty.	T. B. CODDINGTON & CO., 25 & 27 Cliff St., New York. Bar Iron, Sheet Iron, &c Of every description	SCRAP IRON, Pig Iron, OLD METALS. YARDS: 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102 & 104 Mangin St. And 71, 73, 75 77 & 79 Tompkins St. OFFICES, 92 Mangin Street, 178 Pearl Street, near Pine Street.	BURDEN'S HORSE SHOES. "Burden Best" Iron. Boiler Rivets.	W. P. TOWNSEND & CO., Manufacturers of WIRE and Black and Tinned Rivets OF CHOICEST CHARCOAL IRON. Rivets any diameter up to 7-1/2in and ANY LENGTH required. 19 & 21 Market St., PITTSBURGH PA.
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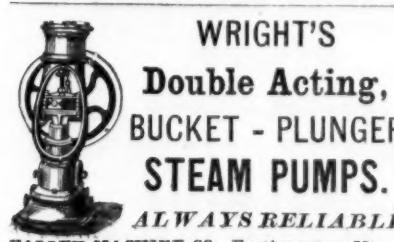
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Steam Boiler Explosions.

Mr. Carlisle Mason, of Chicago, has sent to the Supervising Inspector of Steamboats, at Washington, a communication, from which we take the following:

Many thinking men, skilled in engineering, have thought they had discovered the cause of so much disaster, in electricity generated in the boiler; in decomposition of water, thereby producing explosive gases; the expansion of metals; and the popular theory of low water. I have always been skeptical on these points; especially so of the theory that all explosions are occasioned by low water, from the fact that the small amount of heating surface exposed to the water is, in theory, only capable of raising the temperature of the water in the boiler, say fifteen or twenty degrees at the most, even when red hot; not sufficient, certainly, to be the cause of such fearful disaster. * * *

I think I am within the limits of observation when I say that the rise of water in a boiler, when the engine is started and running, is all of two inches, often more. I have found, on stopping the engine to try the water, that it has been lowered two guages without extra foaming, as it is called. I find, when the engine and boiler are at rest, the water remains perfectly still, without any ebullition; but, the moment the steam is drawn off by any cause, boiling takes place, and the water rises in the boiler. The globules of steam rising through the water must have place; hence, when the water is filled with them, it must occupy more space; and just here it has troubled me to know what became of all the heat or caloric taken up by the water while the boiler was at rest. Experiments have shown that the water can be heated to a much higher temperature when at rest than when the steam is drawn off as it is generated; and, becoming satisfied of this, I have found the following results: A small boiler, twenty inches in diameter and four feet long, was placed in the brick-work, with fire surface underneath. It was filled half full of water, and through its upper side (kept tight by a stuffing-box) a rod was passed down into the water, on the end of which a cross-piece was fastened, and of sufficient length to be turned in the water. On the top of the rod (outside) another cross-tail was placed, and a rope attached to each end was led to a safe distance. Steam was now raised until the gauge indicated one hundred and fifty pounds. The ropes were pulled and the water violently agitated. The boiler exploded in an instant. This was repeated with a pressure-gauge which would indicate by a pointer-hand, and the result was the same; leaving the pointer-hand as high as it would go—I believe 450 pounds. Again, a glass-retort was placed over a spirit-lamp, and the water was brought to a boil, when it immediately rose in the retort some distance, but, on stopping the outlet of steam, it fell to its original height. After getting up a pressure of steam, it was again opened, and the water overflowed, but subsided on partially checking the flow of steam. Now, we find from the shape of our boilers, as usually constructed, that the steam or gas, when generated, has not only to push its way through a column of water, but diffuses itself through the whole mass, and cannot escape until the whole is charged with all it can contain, and, when liberated, it will rush to the point of egress with all possible despatch, nor will it wait to be liberated from its wet bath, but carry water with it, producing what is called foaming. I have observed, and inquiry among engineers confirms the observation, that, when an engine is started, after having been at rest for a time, the steam will rise several pounds, gradually receding to its original pressure. This seems to indicate plainly that there is steam, or caloric to make it, stored away in the water of the boiler, and this, in my opinion, is the cause of very many of our explosions. We have every reason to believe from the testimony of many men—some of them on their death beds—that they saw the water tried and found plenty in the gauge-cocks but a moment before an explosion. In seeking for a remedy for the retention by the water of this heat or steam, I was first led to believe if the water could be agitated it would answer the purpose, but I found it very difficult to do so by mechanical means, and so confined my experiments to a thorough circulation of the water in the boiler, and have so far succeeded as to fully confirm my former conclusions.

I place outside or inside of boilers a horizontal pipe or pipes so arranged that they will be about level with the water line, and have openings at intervals to receive their supply at or near the surface of the water; it is then communicated to the mud pipes or pipes which communicate with the bottom of the boiler, at proper intervals, to give a general and good circulating supply. This method I find best adapted when the water contains a large portion of solid or earthy matter, giving it an ample opportunity to settle in the mud pipes, where it can be blown off at pleasure, thereby keeping the boilers clean and free from mud and scale. Yet, in a common boiler with two or more flues, where the circulation is all that would be desired, I place in the center of the boiler, between the flues, two partitions made of sheet iron; the upper side or edge is about two inches below the water line (at its lowest), and the bottom edge is within three inches of the bottom of the boiler, forming between the partitions a pipe, as it were, to conduct the water to the bottom of the boiler. The operation is very simple, yet very effective, and, even long before steam is formed, the circulation is very rapid. The result is most apparent in a battery of four boilers, where water was at all times carried over to the engine, and varied in the gauge cocks at every fire put under the boilers. It is now all as still and smooth as if no fire were under. It has also proved a saving of fuel; the free escape of steam tending to this. I believe, therefore, when boilers are standing still, the circulation will prevent any

more caloric from being retained by the water than is indicated by the pressure gauge. I believe, too, that the main body of the water will remain at a temperature not greatly exceeding 212° Fahr.

A Burning Mine at Sheffield.

At Parkgate, near Sheffield, a most extraordinary phenomenon can be seen by all interested in colliery wonders. About one hundred years ago, several Parkgate gentlemen sank a shaft known as the Old Basset Pit. They at once found a rich seam of coal—the Barnsley bed, nine feet in thickness. This coal was worked in a very careful fashion for several years—great blocks and pillars of coal, containing many tons, being left to support the roof in place of the modern wooden props. For several seasons everything proceeded smoothly; but one day the pit caught fire. Nobody can tell how it was ignited; and the ancient miners appear to have been utterly dismayed by the unexpected disaster, as they left the pit to turn at will, instead of closing up the shaft and commencing anew, as they might have done. Many years afterward "the burning pit" was again approached by the lord of the manor, Earl Fitzwilliam, who began to work out coal in the locality. A shaft was sunk at some distance from the Old Basset Pit, and the coal in the direction of Rawmarsh was got at—the new workings being kept at what was considered a safe distance from the fiery pit. Everything proceeded satisfactorily till 1868, when a miner named Parkin descended the Bank Pit shaft—the name by which the new shaft was known—and was greatly alarmed to find fire only ten feet from the pit bottom. He at once gave the alarm—the principal officials were upon the spot, and efforts made to extinguish the fire. "Parkin's flames" were soon put out; but it was found that the whole pit was on fire, and as the Earl's collieries extended for miles, it was feared that the fire would spread over the entire workings. The Old Basset shaft was at once filled up; the old Bank shaft was also closed; a third shaft, the Top Stubbin Pit, was also filled up. A long and thick wall was built to separate the Old Basset workings from the newly opened portions of the pit. Explorations had to be conducted by crawling on hands and knees in the midst of suffocating smoke; but the wall was at length completed at tremendous expense and great labor—it being 1000 yards in length, and from one foot to five feet thick. Cross walls were also built to cut off air ways, and so help in choking the fire. Thick iron pipes, with iron plugs, were inserted in the wall at intervals of fifty yards, so that views could be obtained of the Old Basset workings looking through these pipes. The great wall occupied the time of a large body of workmen for a whole year. A new "futrell"—the entrance to a coal mine—had to be constructed. It had to be brick-arched above and below with strong brick walls. Entering by this place, the wall is inspected daily, to get information if the old fire has reached it in any way. The last fire was seen in 1872, and on being examined lately, nothing but "black damp" came through the orifices; but the most dangerous place—where the workmen labored at a great wall at the peril of their lives—is believed to be the fiery stronghold. Here the flames are still believed to be raging, although securely imprisoned by the work of the underground heroes who built its prison walls. Until a year or two ago, the farmers found that their crops over this pit were materially accelerated in growth by the heat; and the fact that this acceleration is not so apparent now is the strongest proof to professional minds that the burning pit has about spent its strength after a "long fire" of one hundred years.

Improvement in Colliery Winding Gear.

The London *Mining Journal* says: At the Mimmins Colliery, at Willenhall, belonging to Mr. Matthew Tildesley, some winding machinery has just been put up, which is attracting much attention in the locality, and that deserves to be widely known, for it seems to be applicable to pits of which the depth is not very considerable. The machinery embraces not only compact winding gear, but likewise the means of preventing over-winding, that merit the consideration of colliery engineers. Boiler, engine, and winding gear are all at the pit's mouth, and cover a space of only a few yards square. The engine and boiler are both under one roof; the grate is constructed so as to effect complete combustion, notwithstanding that the slack used has hitherto been regarded as bank refuse. The boiler is vertical, and possesses a large heating surface of 250 feet. The engine also is vertical, bolted to a frame standing on one side of the shaft mouth, where it works direct a drum fixed over the pit on another frame. On the opposite side of the shaft is the fly-wheel, and to this wheel there is attached a break, which securely grips it until the engineman is at his post, which is at the side of the banksman. To release the break, the principle in use in the north of England has been adopted—the engineman, directly that he takes his stand in the position assigned to him, working by his own weight the lever which disengages the brake. To stop the fly-wheel and to apply the break he has, therefore, only to remove his foot. To the lever, by which the break is applied to the fly-wheel, Mr. Tildesley has attached an iron bar, through which the draw chain runs, and so soon as the skip reaches the required height at the top of the shaft the action of the bar locks the fly-wheel in the grip of the brake, and keeps the skip securely suspended at that point. Owing to the use of the open grate the fire is understood to require renewal only once in about two or three hours. The whole of the apparatus presents a strong contrast to the noisy winding machinery generally adopted in South Stafford-

shire, and the absence of smoke, together with the apparent impossibility of colliers' lives being sacrificed by the negligence or oversight of the engineman in working his engine too long whilst men are ascending, seem to us to give to the improvement the importance which, now the new Mines Act is about to be put into operation, should attract the notice of the colliery people of this district.

Submarine Cable Manufacture.

A writer in a California exchange describes the manufacture of submarine telegraph cables in San Francisco, as follows:

The cable is made on one of Bowden Bros. horizontal cable machines, of twelve spindles, constructed at Newcastle-on-Tyne, England. The core consists of seven No. 22 copper wires, thoroughly insulated up to 5/16 of an inch in diameter, covered with gutta-percha and Chatertown's compound; over this is a layer of canvas and rope-yarn, measuring in all 9 1/2 inches in diameter, outside of this core are twelve No. 9 galvanized iron wires, each of which has a tensile strength of 1500 pounds. When finished, the cable is about one inch in diameter, and weighs in round numbers four-fifths of a pound to the foot. The gross weight of the cable and reel upon which it is wound, for the one length of two and a half miles, will be 13,000 pounds.

In making the cable, the core passes through the hollow shaft on the machine, and, meeting the wires at a central point, is covered by them. The twelve bobbins revolve around a common center, and the rope is drawn on to the reel by gearing attached to the reel. Considerable care is required to keep an exact strain on all the bobbins, for, if one wire breaks, the machine has to be stopped in order to join the ends.

This enterprise is, of course, as yet only in its infancy, but the proprietor hopes to extend his business ultimately to greater proportions. In fact, the main cause of its foundation is that they are in hopes of being able to make the China and other cables for the Pacific. The great danger to be apprehended in the transportation of submarine cable is from the change of temperature in crossing the tropics, as shown by the experience of the Red Sea and Panama cables. The only safe way is to lay it in large tanks filled with water.

Supporting Columns in Coal Mines.

The following petition is being circulated in the mining districts of Pennsylvania:

"To the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Pennsylvania:

"Your petitioners, inhabitants of the State aforesaid, most respectfully represent that Governor Geary, in his last message, recommended the last Legislature to pass a law in accordance with the following paragraph:

"A still more recent casualty suggests another amendment to the act referred to (of 1870). By the reprehensible practice of robbing the supporting columns, the roofs of the mines, the overlying surfaces of which are in some places covered with houses, sink into the vacuum, causing the destruction of many thousands of dollars worth of property, as at Scranton, Hyde Park and Wilkesbarre. It should therefore be made unlawful to remove the coal supports without supplying their places with others of substantial masonry, or something equivalent."

"Your petitioners do therefore pray your honorable bodies will pass a law in accordance with said recommendation, believing that many millions of dollars worth of property is at stake in mineral strata, such as iron ore and strata of coal above the nine feet vein, beside other minerals and valuable clays, together with houses, barns, orchards, timber, water courses, mills, railroads, canals, public highways, cemeteries and the general devastation of the fairest and richest portion of our great State. And your petitioners will ever pray."

The Silber Light.—An English inventor, a Mr. Silber, has lately made various improvements in oil lighting. Among other lamps to which Mr. Silber has applied his principle, are the side and masthead lights used on ships. He has perfected a covering for these lanterns which, while permitting the free outward passage of heated air from the flame, is completely impermeable to water washing over it. Waves breaking over the side lights so constructed would have no power to extinguish the flame. The principle of construction of these ship lanterns is analogous to that adopted to afford protection against currents of air in the case of street lamps and railway roof lamps.

The London *Engineer* gives an account of an interesting experiment made with a compound engine. The engine was of the annular type; the large cylinder, about thirty-five inches diameter, the inner cylinder about fifteen inches, the stroke of both pistons was the same, about five feet, the piston-rods both laying hold of the same crosshead, which was connected with an overhead beam. The experiment consisted in shutting the steam off from the inner cylinder and driving with the outer annular piston alone. It was found that the engine, then indicating the same horse-power as before, failed to drive the machinery at the proper speed, and it was not till the indicated horse-power was augmented nearly forty per cent., that the engine would do the work. On permitting the steam to find its way to the inner cylinder as before, the indicated horse-power fell to the original point, the machinery being driven at the proper speed.

A French inventor proposes to photograph despatches to microscopic fineness, and blow them through a tube sunk in the Straits of Dover. When arrived at their destination the despatches would be enlarged again. By this method long despatches could be sent about as cheaply and just as quickly as short ones.

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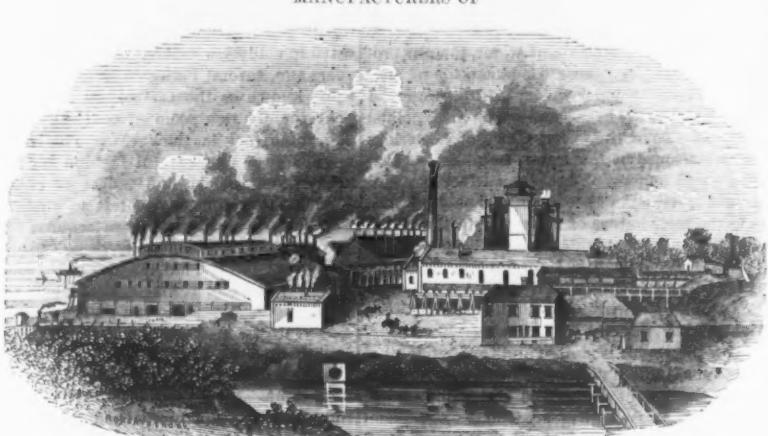
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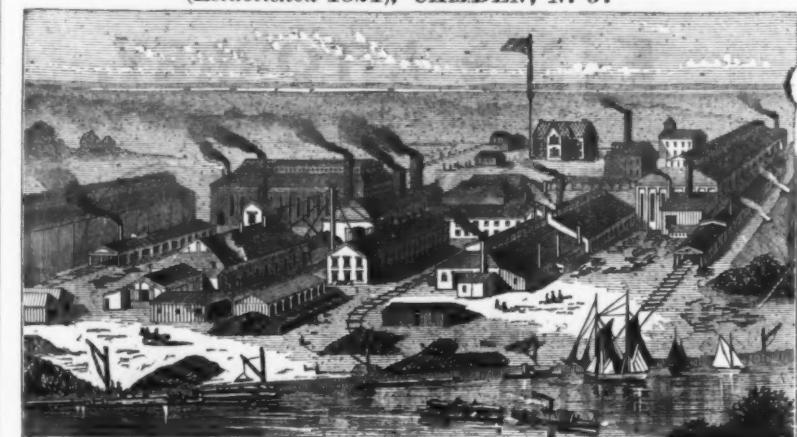
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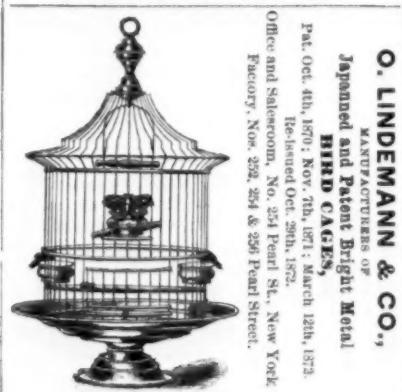
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PARKER
Breech Loading,
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Do High Wages Benefit Labor?

It has been charged that the high wages now paid to English workmen in all trades have had the effect of rendering them idle, shiftless and intemperate. This has been stoutly denied by the unions, and the assertion has given rise to a good deal of newspaper discussion. We take the following from an interesting article in the *Sheffield Independent*, directly bearing upon the subject, and purporting to give the results of careful inquiry into the present condition of the working classes of that city:

Are the artisan classes any better off now, with their shorter hours of labor and their advanced wages, than they were four years ago? An answer either way would be strictly true. Many of the more highly remunerated men in the iron branches have taken advantage of the season of prosperity, and have been investing their savings, more particularly in building societies. As much cannot be said of the men employed in the cutlery, file, and other old staple trades of the town. It must, however, be admitted that during the season of extreme depression which followed the last commercial panic, the heavy discounts which were made brought wages down "almost to starvation point." It was with the utmost difficulty the barest necessities of life could be procured. The advances, of which so much has been made, in the cutlery and other trades, would only have brought wages up to what were reasonable, even had the price of the commodities of life remained as they were. With each slight increase of salary men have had to pay far more for all they had to purchase with it; and striking a balance, even on this account, they would be in no better position. It is true with a prosperous season of trade they might have worked more steadily and continuously; but they appear to have acted under the hallucination that because they were receiving better pay, therefore they were at liberty to idle away half their time and to live more extravagantly. So far as regards thousands of families in the town, the heads of which have been, and are, earning moderately good wages, they are scarcely a week's remove from pauperism. If overtaken by an accident or sickness they apply for relief at once. Employers who are no longer pressed with orders begin to shake off the idle and incompetent, who are coming upon the rates. The opinion of those who are in a position to judge is that should a time of real depression of trade come there would be more poverty and distress in the town than ever were known before. Of course there are men in these, as well as in all other branches, who will save under any circumstances; but during the winter, even with augmented incomes, they have found it exceedingly difficult to do so on account of the increased cost of living. As regards the majority, they are as poor and as deeply in debt as ever they were.

Are the people of Sheffield any exception in their inveterate habit of borrowing and of putting off the evil day of paying as long as they possibly can? It is a significant fact that although wages have been steadily increasing, the business transacted by loan societies has also extended immensely. Some of these societies are inundated with applications from persons anxious to borrow; but only those who can offer satisfactory security are dealt with. A system of borrowing and lending is being carried on in some works to an extent little imagined. There are men in them all who are always poor, however much they may earn; and there are generally a few in each place who are as careful and as saving as the others are improvident. The one borrows from the other, the rate of interest being one penny per week for every shilling lent! Cases have occurred in which men have paid fivepence per week for months for the loan of five shillings. Those who are in the happy position of lenders are making a "good thing" out of it, and rather encourage the system. Good trade has in no way interfered with the business of pawnbrokers. In the County Court last year there were entered 21,504 plaintiffs, and 5794 executions levied. In the previous year there were 23,719 plaintiffs entered, and 5579 executions levied. In fact, it is the old story. No matter what some people earn they will be poor and in debt. There are men in the town who are making from £5 to £10 per week who live in 4s. houses, and whose furniture, if brought under the hammer, would not realize £20.

What do the men do with their wages? Much of them goes in drink and in extravagant living; but there is another evil spreading amongst them to an alarming extent. The system of betting threatens to do as much in the way of demoralizing the working classes as even drink has done. There are large factories in the town in which four out of every five men employed are addicted to gambling. From morning until night it is their one theme of conversation, and when any "event" is coming off little or no work is done. Frequently a man's week's wages are pledged before he has earned a penny of them. Twenty years ago only old staggers indulged in the habit, and in a very quiet manner. Those who have watched the development of this pernicious system in our large workshops trace it—whether rightly or wrongly—almost entirely to the establishment of local sports. Young men commenced by "backing" their shopmates, and encouraged by success, have proceeded to bet on more public events, until the system has engrossed the whole of their attention to the neglect of every other duty.

The relations existing between employers and employed in Sheffield at the present day are not of the most satisfactory character. Heads of establishments appear to be taking less and less personal interest in those about them. Men

never would dream of speaking to a principal. The person with whom they have to do is the "manager," between whom and the men, in many instances, the most unfriendly feeling exists. The "manager" exercises his authority in an arbitrary and objectionable manner; and the men resent it by doing as little work for as much pay as they can possibly get. A steady, respectable workman, who is endeavoring to improve his position is regarded by the "manager" with jealousy, and his efforts are persistently thwarted and checked. Current events show very clearly what spirit is at work between employers and employed. Forty hammer drivers recently asked their employers to pay them full time, and not call upon them to suffer loss when from breakage or otherwise their hammers could not be worked. In reply, they were dismissed with fortnight's notice, and their places were filled by others. Take a case on the other side. The razor grinders a few years ago were about the worst paid men in Sheffield. The trade was overstocked with labor, and men were altogether unable to provide properly for their families. By organization the men have succeeded in doubling their wages, and in so reducing their numbers as to make it altogether impossible for them to do the work required of them. Although they know their employers have not sufficient blades in stock to last a week, and that hundreds of pounds are being lost because orders cannot be executed, they refuse either to do more themselves, or to admit more than a certain number of apprentices into the trade. The men say they have too vivid a recollection of what they had to endure a dozen years ago ever to place themselves in the same position again. These cases sufficiently indicate the spirit at work, not alone, perhaps, in Sheffield. On the one side there is no personal intercourse and kindly sympathy; on the other there is no cordial, hearty service. It will be well for both sides if trade continue moderately good for some time to come, so that neither side might take advantage of the other.

It is said that a load of bullion came through from the Colorado Silver Regions as lead on to Philadelphia. At Wetmore siding on the P. & E. Railroad, the car that this metal was loaded on got jammed, and the metal was buried in the snow. Another car was procured, and the metal reloaded and sent eastward. Shortly after a pre-emptory order came from the president that seven bars of lead were missing, and they must be got. After considerable digging in the snow, five of the pigs were recovered and sent on. Then another order came, "the other two bars must be found," and found they were, after much delay and hard work. The men wondered why they were so particular about a few pigs of lead. But they found out shortly after that they were not lead, but silver, valued at \$2000 a bar, being sent to the Philadelphia mint for coinage, and were carried in this way so as to mislead thieves along the road, who undoubtedly would have pilfered the car to some extent had they known the value of its cargo.

A few weeks ago, Messrs. Henry Rogers, Sons, & Co., of Wolverhampton, entertained their clerks and workmen to a splendid banquet, in the provision for which no expense and trouble appears to have been spared. At the conclusion of the repast, the senior partner rose and addressed the company to this effect: "The year just closing has been a year of marvelous prosperity. In that prosperity we have shared. We do not wish, however, to monopolize the whole of this good fortune. You, as faithful servants, are, we think, entitled to your proper share, and we have resolved to divide among you the bonus out of these extra profits in proportion to your salaries." The smallest bonus paid, was £5 to the errand boy. The total sum exceeded £500. This reminds us of Charles Dickens' inimitable sketch of the happy and benevolent "Cherble Brothers." In the course of the evening Messrs. Rogers & Co. added to their kindness by promising everyone a week's holiday without stoppage of pay; and this piece of additional generosity called forth a hearty round of cheering.

A brief, but interesting, correspondence has passed between England and Austria to the following effect: A letter was received by the council of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, from the Imperial Austro-Hungarian Consul General, stating that his government was about to take measures to assist small manufacturers in competing with large establishments whose steam power and large capital menaced the existence of small traders, and asking if the English government had taken similar measures, or had power to do so. The council decided to send a reply to the effect that the proposed plan would in England be deemed an interference with commercial freedom and the legitimate advantages which were secured by the employment of capital and machinery.

A manufacturing chemist, Mr. John Carrington Sellars, of Birkenhead, England, has invented a novel composition of matter for use in the place of coal, cannel, etc., in the manufacture of illuminating gas. The composition consists of a mixture of sea-weed, sea-grass, sea-rack, or the like, with coal tar, pitch, bitumen, mineral oils, etc., either with or without peat, charcoal, or other carbonaceous matter, which mixed matter is subjected to destructive distillation in retorts. The advantages claimed are more effective separation of the light hydrocarbons; second, increased yield of carbureted hydrogen, and the production of coke particularly valuable in the manufacture of metal-founders' blacking.

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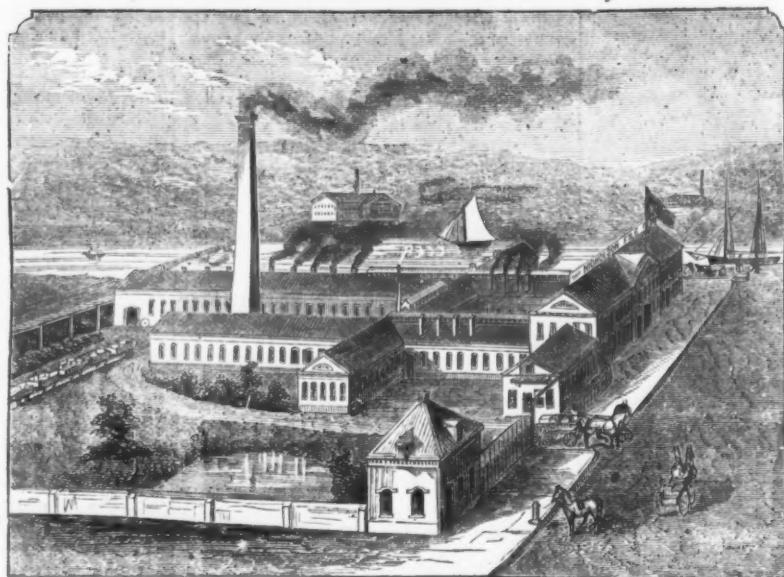
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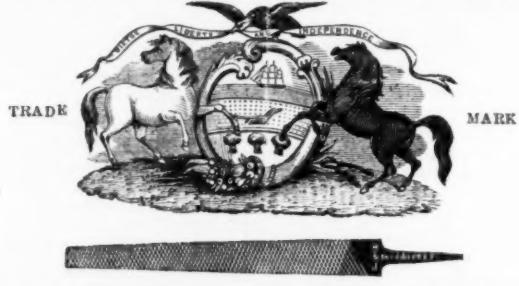
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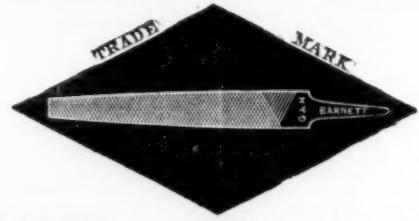
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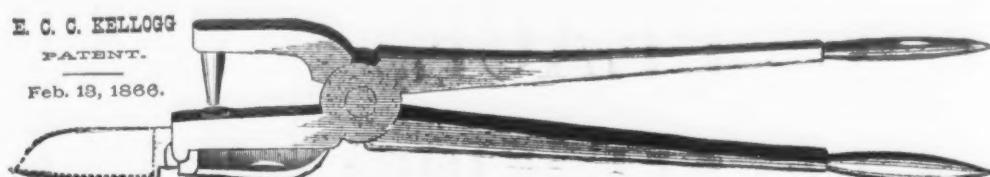
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feeling assured that upon examination their merits must be apparent to every one, from the fact that they possess the essential characteristics of strength, power and cheapness, in a high degree.

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We are also prepared to furnish light work of any description and in any quantity to order.

All kinds of Die Forgings promptly attended to.

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PAPER-BOX MAKERS' DO,
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Fire Department Supplies.

Hotels, Mills, Public Buildings, &c., furnished with Hose, Iron Piping, Hydrants and all kinds of Fire Supplies.

HOSE of every description.

Rubber and Brass Discharge Pipes,
Hats, Caps, Belts, Buckets, Trumpets, Axes,
Hose and Ladder Straps, Spanners, &c.Patent SCREW and RING COUPLING
and SPRAY NOZZLE.

Send for Price List.

ALBERT F. ALLEN, Providence, R. I.

BUSINESS ITEMS.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The Saucon Iron Company, in Hellertown, Bucks county, has \$500,000 capital, employs 300 men, and pays to its workmen every month some \$30,000.

The Phoenix Iron Company intend soon erecting an additional mill, at a cost of \$1,000,000. At Braddock an iron mill is to be erected, and just opposite the built-up portion of the city, on Point Airy, there is soon to be established a smelting works for the reduction of lead and silver ore from the rich deposits in the Rocky Mountain region.

MASSACHUSETTS.

An order has been received at the Armory in Springfield to manufacture 4000 steel bayonet scabbards, and the work will be begun as soon as the machinery can be placed in position. This is a portion of a contract for a quantity of military accoutrements now being filled at the government shops at Watervliet, N. Y., where there are no facilities for manufacturing the scabbards.

Mr. S. R. Russell, of Boston, has invented an apparatus for extinguishing fires which works automatically, and promises to be of great value in case of fire. It consists of a number of turbine water wheels placed beneath the sidewalk in a house or store, and connected with the water main. It is worked by the pressure of the water, and connects with a powerful force pump, which pumps the waste water used in driving the wheel to any part of the building through a standing pipe, with which hose or perforated pipe around the ceilings may be connected. The entire machine occupies but four feet, and may be instantly set in motion by means of a lever, thus bringing water to bear on a fire the instant it is discovered. The machine is receiving the attention of the municipal authorities of Boston.

Messrs. Fearing, Rodman & Swift, East Bridgewater, manufacture all descriptions of chain cables, from $\frac{3}{8}$ inch to 2 inch iron, turning out from 15 to 20 tons per week, which gives 25 hands.

The Ames Company, of Chicopee, have contracted to build a bronze statue for a soldiers' monument in Chester, Pa. A fine set of recently finished gunstocking machinery is now shipping to an extensive arms factory in England.

A steam gong has been placed on the Wason Car Company's works, at Brightwood, which is said to be the largest ever manufactured. It was made by the Water Meter Company, of Worcester, is 10 feet long, contains three separate bells, each of a different tone, and can be heard at a distance of 30 miles. In the new paint shop the company have a large force of men, and the cars are sent up from their old works in an unfinished condition and completed there. Their new engine and steam apparatus are to be tested soon.

CONNECTICUT.

"The Rugg Manufacturing Company" has been organized in Cheshire for the manufacture of edge tools and general hardware. The capital stock of \$50,000 has all been taken at home. H. C. Ives is president and treasurer; Alfred Bristol, secretary; and Charles Rugg, superintendent. The latter has been for over twenty years foreman of the Collins Company, Collingsville. The company have bought four acres of land, and will soon build ample Works.

MAINE.

The Worcester & Nashua Railroad Company have contracted with the Portland Rolling Mills for 2000 tons of iron rail for the Rochester and Nashua line, now under construction, and which is designed to form the articulating link of the route between the extreme East, the city of New York and the great West.

OHIO.

The Columbus Revolving Scraper Company have erected a shop 120x30 feet, and two stories high, and now work from 25 to 30 hands. They expect to build a larger shop in the spring. They will make from 5000 to 8000 scrapers this year. They make from 100 to 150 dozen harrows per month, and about 100 railroad plows.

The firm of Schreyer & Smith, Columbus, manufacture the steel wagon skeins of which Mr. Schreyer is the patentee. The company is now erecting extensive works for the accommodation of its business. The new buildings are of brick, with a slate roof, and will be a great addition to the rapidly increasing establishments of the city. The foundry is 70x45 feet, machine shop 60x45 feet, two stories, forging shop 80x34, with an ell 50x40. The works will be fitted up complete for the purposes intended, comprising a rolling mill for rolling the plates used, six power hammers, besides binding and shearing machines, lathes, planers, etc.

MICHIGAN.

The work of rebuilding the Northern Iron Company's furnace, at Chocolay, has been suspended for a time on account of the cold weather interfering with the mason work. A large share of the work necessary to make the change from charcoal to anthracite fuel has been done, and the furnace can be put into operation soon after open weather sets in. It is the intention to rebuild the docks and piers and dredge the channel at the mouth of the river. This will be expensive work. The rolling mill branch railroad, which is to be extended to the Carp furnace, should also be extended to the Chocolay, and thus furnish good transportation facilities at less expense than by the rebuilding of the Chocolay harbor.

The Marquette & Pacific Rolling Mill Furnace is being completely disemboweled, and will be remodeled after the style of the Grace stack.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Iron Ore Hill Manufacturing Company, in Chatham, have commenced operations, and are making four tons of iron per day. They expect to have seven furnaces in full blast in less than 12 months, and will manufacture the article on quite an extensive scale.

KANSAS.

During the past year, the Lawrence Iron Works, at Lawrence, have run altogether 451 "turns," running all the time on "double turn," the mill being employed during the whole year, except for a short time in the summer. At their mill and coal banks they have employed about 300 men, and during the year have manufactured 7675 tons of muck bar, and 6014 tons of finished iron.

The contract for bridging the Missouri at Atchison was let on the 17th ult. to the King Bridge Co., of Topeka, for \$815,000; the work to be completed in two years.

NEBRASKA.

At the Omaha Machine Shops, the Union Pacific has turned out the first locomotive, and expect to build them at that point in the future, as the cost is much less than at the East.

MISSOURI.

The Hamilton Iron Company are to erect a blast furnace in Blanton Settlement, in the northwestern part of Washington county, to be in blast by next July or August. The principal men of the company are experienced iron manufacturers from Portsmouth, Ohio, and their capital is \$150,000.

Economy in the Use of Coal.

The council of the Society of Arts has issued the following announcement: "With reference to the sum of £500 placed at the disposal of the council, through Sir William Bodkin, by a gentleman who does not wish his name to appear, for promoting, by means of prizes or otherwise, economy in the use of coal for domestic purposes, the council have decided to offer the following prizes:

1. For a new and improved system of grate suitable to existing chimneys as generally constructed, which shall, with the least amount of coal, answer best for warming and ventilating the room—the Society's Gold Medal and £50.

2. For a new and improved system of grate, suitable to existing chimneys as generally constructed, which shall, with the least amount of coal, best answer for cooking food, combined with warming and ventilating the room—the Society's Gold Medal and £50.

3. For the best new and improved system of apparatus which shall, by means of gas, most efficiently and economically warm and ventilate a room—the Society's Gold Medal and £50.

4. For the best new and improved system of apparatus which shall, by means of gas, be best adapted for cooking, combined with warming and ventilating the room—the Society's Gold Medal and £50.

5. For any new and improved system of arrangement not included in the foregoing, which shall efficiently and economically meet domestic requirements—the Society's Gold Medal and £50.

"The council reserve to themselves the right of withholding all or any of the above prizes, as the judges appointed by them may determine.

"The competing articles must be delivered not later than the 1st of December, 1873, with a view to their being tested, and subsequently shown in the London International Exhibition of 1874.

"Further particulars as to place of delivery and other arrangements will be published as soon as they are finally settled."

The Centennial Stock and the Pennsylvania Ironmasters.—The Committee on Rolling Mills, in connection with the Centennial Anniversary, composed of Samuel J. Reeves, George B. Newton, Stephen Robbins, and Percival Roberts, have issued an address to the producers and manufacturers of iron throughout the State, soliciting subscriptions to the Centennial stock. Appealing to the self interest of the iron workers, they say: "What class of our citizens has more to gain from an international industrial exhibition on our own soil and within the limits of our own State, than the manufacturers of iron? They have heretofore had a home market for all their products, but they should not therefore neglect to extend their foreign market. They should look abroad for customers, as England does to-day. An exhibition at Philadelphia of the world's industrial products would be most favorable for a display of the iron products and resources of Pennsylvania, and could not fail to increase the estimation in which they are held by foreigners and eventually to increase the demand for any surplus of finished iron we might have to sell. The home demand for our iron would also be stimulated by a display which would convince thousands of Americans that home made wares are the cheapest and the best." They say that of the four millions promised by Senator Scott to come from Pennsylvania alone, so large an interest as that of iron should take at least one-tenth of that sum. They then give the following as the subscriptions thus far received: Phoenix Iron Company, and Clark, Reeves & Co., \$5000; Cambria Iron Company, \$5000; A. & P. Roberts & Co., 2500; Allentown Rolling Mill Company, \$2500; John P. Verree, \$1000; Seyfert, McManus & Co., \$2500. The workmen in the iron establishments of Philadelphia have subscribed many thousands of dollars. In closing they urge promptness of response to the request for subscriptions.

Meeting of Copper Manufacturing Associations.—Representatives of a number of the copper manufacturing associations of New-York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Maryland, met in annual session at Baltimore on Wednesday last.

The business was conducted in private; but it is understood a resolution was adopted that no change be made at present in the price of manufactured copper, on account of the high price of the raw material.

Keystone Saw, Tool, Steel & File W'ks,

Front & Laurel Sts., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

HENRY DISSTON & SONS,

having rebuilt that portion of their extensive Works destroyed by the conflagration of Nov. 15, 1872, and having introduced new and improved Machinery for the Manufacture of every Article of the Trade, are prepared, with their increased facilities, to fill all orders with punctuality, promptness and dispatch.



Hankins' Elliptic Forked Saw Frame.

Patented June 28th, 1870.

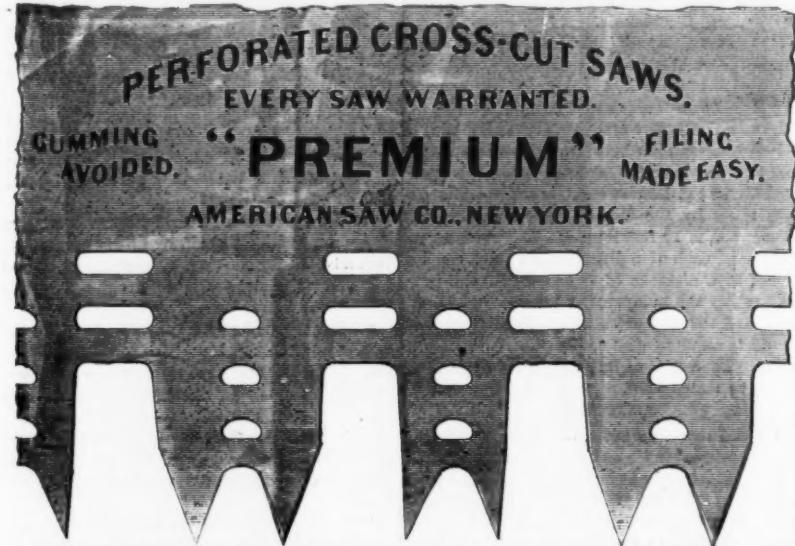
The annexed engraving represents HANKINS' ELLIPTIC FORKED SAW FRAME, which commends itself to the trade for its simplicity of construction. The Forked Brace being all in one piece, without any centre bolt, secures for the Frame great strength and durability.

These Frames are put up with my best Webs, marked "No. 40, Harvey W. Peace."

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VULCAN SAW WORKS,
WILLIAMSBURGH, N. Y.

AMERICAN SAW CO.,

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Solid saws require frequent gumming, thereby subjecting them to risk of springing or breaking. This is especially the case with cross cuts having Patent Teeth. In the perforated saws all gumming is avoided, and the teeth are easily kept long and in proper shape, saving time, labor, expense and vexation. As is well known, our saws cut faster, smoother and easier than any other.

MOVABLE-TOOTHED CIRCULAR SAWS AND SOLID SAWS OF ALL KINDS.



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Manufacturers of

L. COES' GENUINE IMPROVED PATENT SCREW

WRENCHES,

Worcester, Mass.

We have manufactured this style of wrench for the past two years. Our Mr. L. Coes, formerly senior member of the firm of L. & A. G. Coes, established in 1859, is the Original Inventor of the Screw Wrench, and has, by making the bar wider, where the strain comes most severe, and screwing a nut up firmly against four square shoulders inside the ferrule, thereby effectually preventing the ferrule from being thrust back into the handle or getting loose, and making a larger screw than in the old wrench, fully succeeded in making a 12 inch wrench stronger than a 15 inch made in the usual manner. All sizes are made in this way, and are undoubtedly the strongest and best finished Screw Wrenches in the market.

There are imitations of our goods offered for sale, that, without question, infringe on our Patents.

We hold Patents bearing date Nov. 10th, 1863 (re-issued June 1st, 1869), June 26th 1866, March 23d, 1869 (re-issued April 12th, 1870, and May 14th, 1872), which fully cover all our improvements. One of the above cuts represents a sectional view, showing the nut under the ferrule, and the strengthened bar, that part being covered by the jaw, as seen in the cut of wrench complete. None genuine unless stamped

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MANUFACTURER OF

SAWS OF ALL KINDS.

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PATENT BRACED
WOOD SAWS,
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Recognized Standard Goods for durability, quality and finish.

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Superior Cast Steel Hand, Panel, Ripping, Ice, Compass, Hack, Butchers' Bow, Grafting, Pruning, Keyhole and Web Saws,

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POLISHED & DETACHABLE BUCKETS

CHEAPEST & BEST WHEEL MADE.

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We make a specialty of the LARGEST SIZES of Circular Saws, and call particular attention of lumber manufacturers to the following points of excellence: Evenness of Temper.—The peculiar structure of our saws subjects all parts of the saw to a DEAD heat, and when dipped in the oil bath secures perfect uniformity.

Perfect Accuracy in Thickness.—Our saws are ground on a patent machine, automatically in its operation, and divide the thickness of the plate before the thinner parts are reached, and when the saw is removed BALANCES PERFECTLY, which is proof positive of the right accomplishment of the work.

Properly Hammered.—Great care is taken that no saw shall leave our works without due attention in this important particular. A saw too tightly strained upon the rim, or too loose in the center, causes the saw to break, and when the proper use of hammering the saw as to effect equal strain in all its parts, and at the same time RUN TRUE. This department is under the personal supervision of our Senior, who has devoted over twenty years to the art of saw making.

We are sole proprietors and manufacturers of the celebrated "Clipper" Cross-Cut Saw. Price Lists of all kinds of saws sent on application.

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A SPECIALTY.

Price and Weight per Square Foot, by the Roll. For Steel Wire, add 7%.

3 x 3 MESH.		3 1/2 x 3 1/2 MESH.		4 x 4 MESH.		6 x 6 MESH.		8 x 8 MESH.		10 x 10 MESH.							
No. of Wires per sq. foot.	price cts.																
10	3.47	40	11	3.20	38	12	2.80	35	14	2.43	33	16	2.00	30	18	1.39	30
11	2.75	32	12	2.45	31	13	2.15	30	15	1.97	30	17	1.47	25	19	1.08	25
12	2.10	26	13	1.85	25	14	1.62	25	16	1.51	25	18	1.11	20	20	0.76	20
13	1.61	22	14	1.41	20	15	1.31	21	17	1.10	20	19	0.85	18			

These Cloths are used for Mines, Jail, Asylum, and Storehouse Window and Door Guards, Malt Floors, Bulkheads and Floors for Grain Elevators and Grain Vessels. SPECIAL FIGURES FOR LARGE ORDERS.

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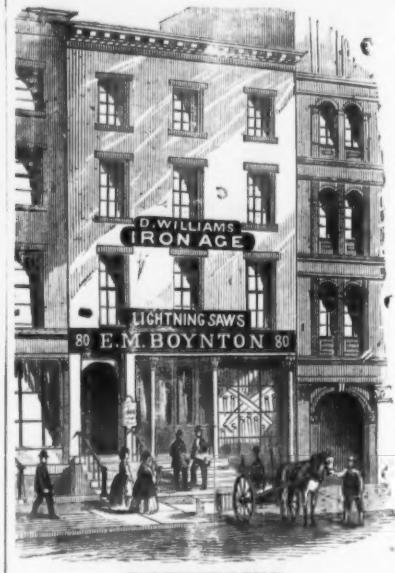
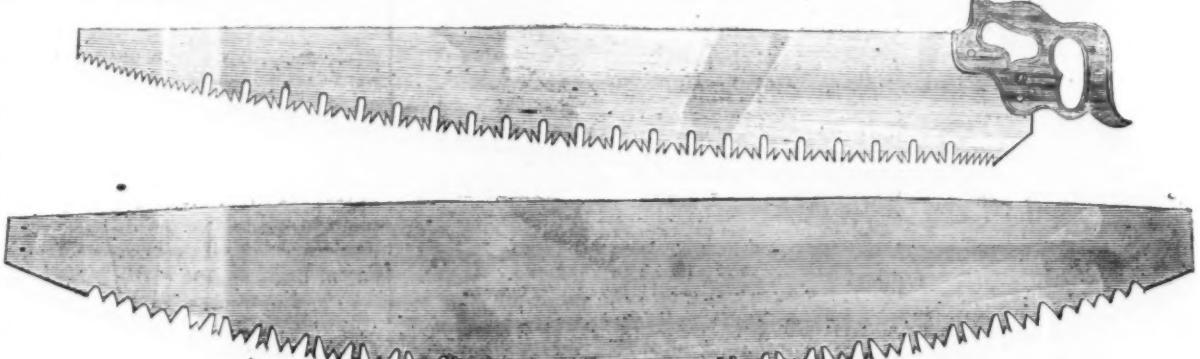
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Awarded the Medal of the American Institute, 1872.



Two Direct Cutting Edges, instead of one Scraping Point. Note extra steel and durability over the old V, outlined tooth.

A Challenge of \$5,000 toward expense of a public test, to prove that the Lightning Saws exceed all others in Speed, Ease, and Simplicity, has been offered since 1870, and has never been accepted. More than 100,000 Lightning Saws were sold during the year 1872, the purchasers of which fully approve the Lightning Saws.

Our leading papers, such as the Tribune, American Agriculturist, Christian Union, etc., have published over sixty editorial notices recommending these Saws. Far more than 1,000 Hardware Dealers unite in pronouncing the genuine Lightning Saw the greatest labor-saving implement of the art.

I have hundreds of letters from practical sawyers, usually written, expressing their entire approval of these Saws.

Where the Hardware Trade do not sell the Lightning Saw, I will send a 6-foot cross-cut and a buck saw blade on receipt of \$1.

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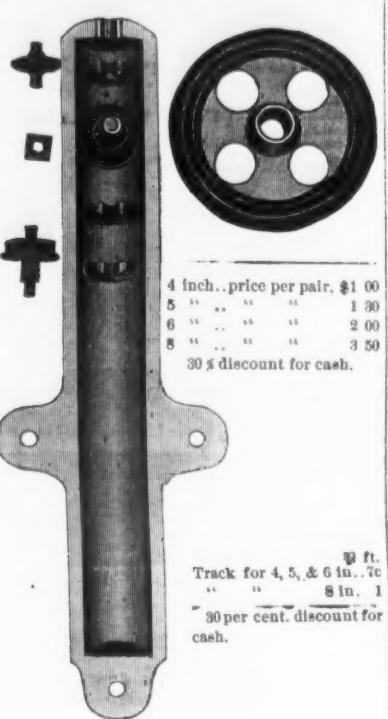
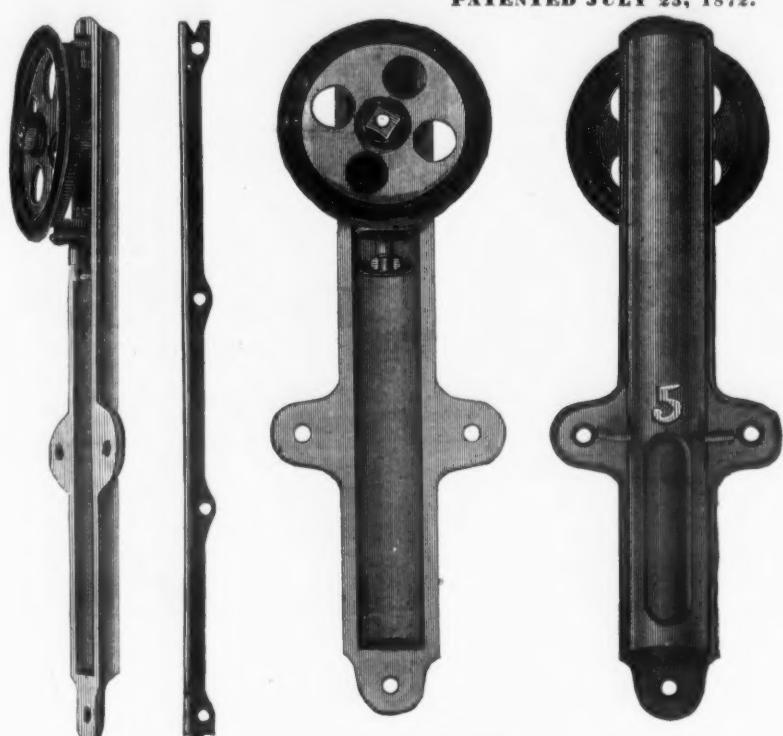
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PATENT NOVELTY HANGER,

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 30% discount for cash.

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 " " 8 in. 1
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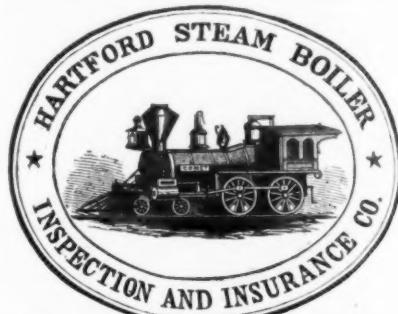
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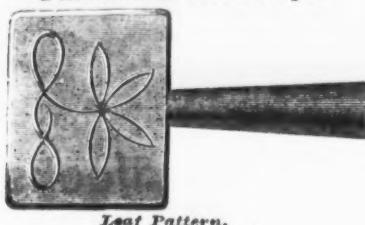
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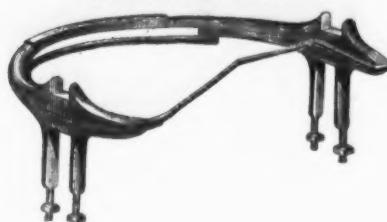


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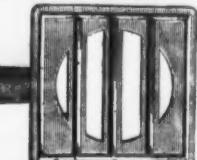
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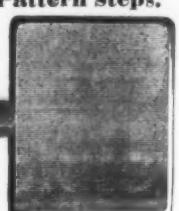


Upper View.



Lower View.

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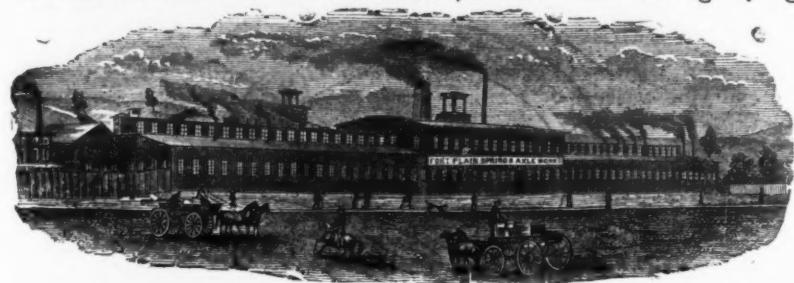
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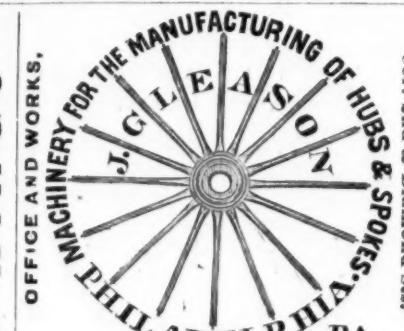
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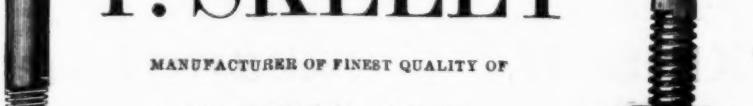
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The Iron Age.

New York, Thursday, March 13, 1873.

DAVID WILLIAMS Publisher and Proprietor,
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The "Crystallization" of Wrought Iron.

Mr. Oliver Williams, Superintendent of the Cataqua Manufacturing Company's Works, and a practical iron master of large experience in the manufacture of bar, tank and boiler iron, railway axles, etc., has sent us two very interesting specimens of inch square bar iron, showing the action of frost in effecting what appears to be a complete change in molecular structure. The specimens are accompanied by the following letter:

CATASAUQUA, Pa., March 5, 1873.

To the Editor of *The Iron Age*—DEAR SIR: As showing the peculiar action of frost on iron, I send you, by to-day's express, two specimens cut from different bars of iron rolled by us for iron. These specimens were first nicked with a cleft on one side only, and then broken under a hammer, at a temperature of about 20° Fahrenheit. At this temperature both specimens broke off short, showing, as you will notice, a clearly defined granular or steely iron fracture. The pieces were then gradually heated to about 75° Fahrenheit, and then broken, as before, developing a fine, clear fibrous grain. The two fractures are but four inches apart, and yet are entirely different. This is not a new thing in our experience, but I have never had the phenomena explained to my satisfaction, and I refer the matter to you, hoping it may provoke an explanation that will be of interest to the trade. Yours, truly,

OLIVER WILLIAMS.

A careful examination of the fractures shows a difference which is certainly remarkable. At one end the iron has broken short off with a fracture not unlike that of cast iron; at the other end with a fracture such as might be expected in good neutral wrought iron, while midway between them the bar is bent double, after clipping on one side, showing a fracture of beautiful gray color and exposing a continuous silky fiber, more resembling the fiber of hickory wood than anything else to which we can compare it. The questions suggested are: Is the steely, granular fracture really crystalline, or only apparently so because the plane of the fracture is at right angles to the grain? And, if really crystalline, is such molecular change the usual effect of frost upon neutral wrought iron?

Upon these subjects it is difficult to express any decided opinions, either based upon the results of original observations or upon the conclusions of those who, by careful and scientific experiment, have endeavored to settle the long disputed ques-

tion of the crystallization of wrought iron. We have seen good neutral iron behave very differently at different times under much the same conditions, but nothing in our observation has led us to believe that fibrous wrought iron becomes really crystalline under any conditions. The contraction and expansion of a bar of iron, according to its temperature, necessarily implies a more or less constant change in the relation, or relative position, of the molecules composing it; and, when most contracted, the iron may become so compact that, when broken short off across the grain, it may appear to be composed of minute crystals, as in the samples before us. On the other hand, when the iron is expanded by heat, it is probable that the molecules are so adjusted as to develop much greater tenacity than when cold, and the fracture made under these conditions would naturally present a fibrous appearance. Robert Stevenson was, we believe, opposed to the theory of a change from fibrous to crystalline structure in wrought iron under any circumstances. Mr. Thorneycroft considered that the internal structure of iron undergoes no change unless there be a change of form, but that long continued bending would make the most fibrous iron crystalline. Mr. Roebling, the eminent bridge constructor, gave it as the result of his experience that the most fibrous bar may be broken so as to show a granular, and apparently crystalline fracture, without undergoing any molecular change whatever. "Take," he says, "a fibrous bar, 10 feet long, nip it in the center all around with a cold chisel, then poise the bar upon the short edge of a large anvil and a short piece of iron placed eight or nine inches from the edge on the face of the anvil, and strike a few heavy blows upon the nip so that each blow will cause the bar to rebound and to vibrate intensely, and the result will be a granular and somewhat crystalline fracture. Now take up the two halves and 'nip them all round again, about one or two inches from the fractured ends, and break them off by easy blows over the round edge of the anvil, and the fibre will appear again. This experiment proves that a break caused by sudden jars and intense vibration may show a granular, and even crystalline, fracture, without having changed the molecular arrangement of the iron. All fibres are composed of mineral crystals drawn out and elongated or flattened, and the fracture may be produced so as to exhibit in the same bar, and within the same inch of bar, either more fibre or crystal. But a coarse crystalline bar will, under no circumstances, exhibit fibre, nor will a well-worked-out fibre exhibit coarse crystals.

The question of practical importance involved in such a dispute, however, is whether such changes of structure as may take place during the contraction and expansion incident to changes of temperature, affect in any material degree the strength of iron. On this subject there is the widest diversity of opinion among recognized experts, whose views are entitled to the most careful consideration. As regards rails, experience seems to show that the results reached in actual service are different from those reached by experiment, as more rails and axles break in winter—mostly showing seemingly crystalline fractures—than in summer, while carefully conducted experiments have, under some circumstances, shown that very cold iron will resist a harder blow than the same iron when heated to the average summer temperature. Knut Styffe, the eminent Swedish metallurgist and Director of the Royal Institute of Stockholm, is of the opinion that "the modulus of elasticity in both iron and steel is increased on reduction of temperature and diminished on elevation of temperature." He admits that his conclusions are at variance with what would seem to be the general experience, but accounts for the fact that iron and steel become brittle because sufficient allowance is not made for expansion and contraction incident to changes of temperature. Sandberg, an authority on railroad iron and translator of Styffe's works into English, reaches a very different conclusion. Wishing to ascertain specifically the effect of cold upon iron rails, he undertook a series of experiments extending through summer and winter, which are described as follows:

"A granite rock near Stockholm was leveled *in situ*, and upon this plane surface two cubic blocks of granite, each containing about ten cubic feet, were placed four feet apart to serve as supports. A ball weighing 9 cwt. was so adjusted that it could be raised to a height of 15 feet, and then allowed to fall on the rail midway between the supports. All the rails were tested by the ball falling from a height of 5 feet for the first blow, and with an increase of 1 foot for each succeeding blow, until fracture occurred, the deflection being measured after each impact. The average results obtained from ten rails tested

show that one end of a rail tested at 84° F. resisted a blow from the height of 39 feet, whilst the other end tested at 10° F. only sustained a blow from the height of 11 feet."

Notwithstanding the results of Sandberg's experiments, Styffe is not alone in the position he has assumed. Dr. Joule reached the conclusion, after careful experiments, that frost alone does not render iron or steel brittle under any circumstances; while Sir W. Fairbairn holds that the strength of wrought iron is increased by frost. Fairbairn considers Sandberg's experiments inconclusive and unsatisfactory, because made with notoriously cold short iron, but admits that they may, perhaps, be regarded as showing that cold short iron is weakened by frost, even if neutral and hot short irons are not.

The conclusion naturally reached from a comparison of these opinions, and a careful examination of the facts upon which they are based, is that the quality and chemical constitution of iron has much—perhaps everything—to do with determining the effect of cold upon its structure and strength. The subject is one of so much interest and importance that we are unwilling to venture any hastily formed or ill-considered explanation of the phenomena which are brought to our attention in the letter above published, preferring rather to lay the matter before our readers in the hope of exciting discussion. The experiences of iron masters and engineers with regard to the crystallization, or other change of structure, in good neutral wrought iron, from frost, vibration, or other causes, would prove of great public interest, and we invite the fullest and freest discussion of the subject, promising as large a share of our space as may be necessary to accommodate such interesting communications as may be sent us.

The British Coal Famine.

Much as it has been written about by newspaper correspondents and discussed by newspaper writers, we do not believe that any adequate idea has yet been formed by the people of this country of the miseries resulting from the scarcity of fuel for domestic purposes in Great Britain. Our English exchanges are full of such paragraphs as the following, which we take from a report of one of the London Health Inspectors: "It has come to my knowledge

"that, owing to the present high price of coal, many of the poor in the parish are enduring great privations. In some poor families that I have heard of fuel is obliged to be economized in the following manner: A fire is lighted early in the morning to boil the water for breakfast, after which it is put out and not re-lighted until the time for cooking the dinner (when they have any), when it is again put out and not re-lighted till tea-time. Surely, it will be manifest to every one that, apart from the misery which the poor, starving children of these families have to endure, the effects of such privation upon their health must be very serious. At the best of times they get but a scanty supply of nourishing food to create animal heat; and now, with the present low temperature, ill-clad and almost without fires to warm them, it seems almost too much to hope that the amount of animal heat necessary to sustain life can be very long maintained." But the suffering from this cause is not confined to those living in absolute destitution. It is stated that thousands of families belonging to what are known as the middle classes are compelled to practice the closest economy in the use of coal. Fires for heating only are very generally dispensed with, and during the unusually cold weather of the past winter many of the comforts, and most of the luxuries, of life have been sacrificed by those in moderate circumstances to admit of the purchase of coals enough to banish frost from their dwellings and render them habitable by persons unable to bear long continued exposure to cold. In other cases, where economy is not forced by poverty, it has been at times impossible to procure domestic coals at all, or at least in quantities sufficient to meet the requirements of families. The suffering and inconvenience from this cause may, however, be expected to diminish with the advance of the season, and perhaps the falling off in the demand for fuel for heating purposes will have a beneficial effect in somewhat reducing the price of coals needed for kitchen and laundry use.

But the evils of the coal famine do not stop with the suffering incident to insufficient supplies of fuel at prices which are beyond the means of the poor and which impose heavy burdens upon the middle classes. Dear coal implies increased prices for every useful commodity and for transportation on the one hand, and diminished employment for workingmen on the other. There is not one department of British industry which has not felt the paralyzing influence of the advance in fuel. With higher prices for manufactures of all kinds their consumption is restricted, and

in many districts employers have been compelled to reduce the number of the men and women in their employ, and to reduce their productions as the only means of escaping otherwise inevitable bankruptcy. This has led to great privation and much suffering among the working classes in districts where coal is scarce. All these evils combined, and the enforced idleness of those who, not taking part in the ruinous strikes, are prevented thereby from pursuing their trades, have brought about a condition of affairs which, we think, may safely said to be without parallel in English history, and which presents a marked and painful contrast to that which existed during the season of unexampled industrial activity and general prosperity through which England so lately passed. Nor is the outlook encouraging. It is believed by many that coal, which at latest advices was quoted at 53 @ 54 shillings, or about \$18 @ \$13.50, gold, per ton, will advance to 60 shillings, or \$15, gold, before the market turns; and while such prices cannot be maintained permanently, since they would paralyze the nation's industries and reduce its consumption to a minimum, there is no reason to hope that England will ever again enjoy the benefits of cheap fuel. We have it on the eminent authority of Sir William Armstrong, that Great Britain has reached the maximum of her production, and that, henceforth, her coal fields will not be able, under the most favorable conditions, to more than supply what, under ordinary conditions, would be her present consumption. This is a startling statement, since it admits that no material increase of consumption is possible unless foreign sources are drawn upon to make good the deficiency of home production. Under such circumstances, we see no chance for England to retain her monopoly of the export trade in manufactures in competition with this country. With dear coal and high wages, she cannot even hold her present position. The *London Times*, which does not speak on so grave a question without deliberation, sounds the note of alarm in the following language:

"The maintenance of prices of coal such as we have been accustomed to, is the condition of our supremacy as a manufacturing nation. Cheap coal is cheap labor. The latent energy of coal, stored up for unnumbered thousands of years in our subterranean treasure houses, is the motive force of all our great manufactures. If we lose this, we are indeed lost. What is the condition of the coal trade in the Southern States of America to be spun into the fabrics which are exported to the East Indies, the native home of the cotton plant? Why is it that wool is brought from Australia to England to be woven into the broadcloth that is sent back to Australia in the shape of ready made clothes? Why is it that from Borneo, that copper from Chile and Australia, that sugar from the Antilles and the Mauritius, are packed up in rough and unmanufactured condition to be smelted and refined and added for use by those who require them? It is not because we have an unusual supply of labor. Other countries—Ireland, for example—have ample supplies of labor; and, indeed, the reserve supplies of labor are everywhere abundant, and are always forthcoming where there are means of employing them to advantage. We have developed supplies of labor for this reason, and for this reason only—that we have the means of putting it to work. We owe our position simply to this—that we have got at hand a piled up natural force in directing which human labor is most efficiently employed, that the substance in which this force is accumulated is in itself so bulky and cumbersome that it is less toilome to bring the raw materials to it to be converted into the finished product than to carry it to the place of production of the raw materials to manufacture them there; and it follows that if through the diminution of our stores the basic of manufacture can no longer be obtained from our own mines, the same facility as from other reserves, the homes of production will shift with the shifting cheapness of coal. The center of gravity of the industrial world will always be found where the labor of appropriating the motive forces of nature is least. This is, at all events, the principle of migration of industry. Men cannot without some delay transport themselves in nations from one field to another, as the return to obtain for their industry varies; and as a result of friction impeding the migration of men; but the course of change always tends to pursue the bounty of Nature, and we can often see the ripple of the movement before the current has reached its full force.

What this means our readers can judge for themselves. The nation is profoundly alarmed at the situation, and more than anxious for the future. Mr. Mundella's motion, providing for the appointment of a commission to inquire into and report upon the present high price and scarcity of coal, has passed Parliament without opposition, and as promptly received the assent of the government; and it is to be hoped the forthcoming "blue-book" will contain something more than specious arguments and deceptive statistics, showing that there is still coal enough in the earth within British territory to supply the largest possible requirements of the nation for another century. This is probably true, but the question of practical interest now to be answered is, whether and under what conditions that coal can be mined so cheaply as to enable British manufacturers to hold their own for another generation against foreign competition.

The Labor Statistics of Massachusetts.

It is certainly to be regretted that the successful results which have attended the labors of the Board of Commissioners appointed to collect, classify and publish such useful information as can be gathered concerning labor, and the condition of the laboring classes, in Massachusetts, have not had the effect of impressing the legislatures of other States with the importance of making provision for the performance of the same good work in much the same way. The last report of the Massachusetts Commissioners, lately published, is of es-

pecial value and interest, and we would gladly give its contents a larger share of our space, but in the present crowded state of our columns we can only find room to note a few of the more interesting features of the work, which, with the reports that have preceded it from the same source, constitutes an important addition to our current statistical literature.

The most noticeable feature of the report is that which exhibits the diversification of industry under a protective tariff, and its natural minute subdivision. There are now as many as one thousand distinct trades and branches of trades employing labor especially skilled in their practice, and yet the number of occupations returned in 1870 was only 242. This is a distinguishing characteristic of our highly developed industrial system. The statistics of wages are interesting, as showing that skill and industry command for the working classes ample and comfortable support. The average annual earnings of each male above 16 years of age is \$536, and each female above 15 is \$237; and the wages of each youth or child employed under 16 is \$150. The cost of living is estimated as follows, from actual returns, predicated on 5-2-10 persons to each family:

	Per Annum.	Per family.	Per person.
Groceries and provisions	\$258.53	\$48.64	
Vegetables	26.66	5.18	
Clothing	134.07	25.67	
Rent	76.78	14.98	
Fuel	51.72	9.82	
Light	6.31	1.19	
Entertainment	29.50	6.43	
Education	12.00	2.38	
Sickness	16.75	3.11	
Recreation and travel	17.70	3.31	
Charity	7.80	1.39	
Religion	14.44	2.71	
Society	6.50	1.25	
Newspapers, &c.	8.74	1.67	
Sundries	30.06	5.68	
	\$690.78	\$122.33	

These comparisons must be examined carefully before the conclusion is reached that the earnings of the head of an average family are not sufficient for its support in comfort. The returns for 1870 show that the average wages of males over 16 years of age \$2.41 per day. If this be the average, a skilled and industrious mechanic, old enough to have a family of four or five to support, should earn at any good trade at least \$3 per day and working 300 days in a year—which would give him 52 Sundays and thirteen holidays, he would earn \$900, or \$200.22 more than the estimated cost of living for a family of 5 and 2-10 persons. Suppose his expenses to be increased to \$800, he would still have \$100 left to deposit in a savings bank, and at this rate of accumulation he could easily save enough between the ages of 25 and 50, including compounded interest, to make more than ordinarily comfortable provision for his old age, or for the support of those dependent upon him in the event of his death or superannuation. In many trades three dollars per day is a low average for skilled and competent men, and it must be remembered that averages like those above given include all classes, and do not fairly show, so far as earnings are concerned, what the labor of a first-class industrious mechanic will command. They do show, however, that the average earnings of a head of a family will not support a family of five adults, whose maintenance costs as much as his own, and none of whom contribute anything to their own support, or the support of the others; but it is not to be expected that they would, nor is it desirable that the children of workingmen should, feel that they are exempt from the necessity of becoming self-supporting as early in life as possible. As the rule, however, the working classes are improvident and unthrifty, and there is no statistical warrant for supposing that increased wages have materially bettered their condition. A great proportion of the workingmen are perpetually in debt, and in many instances the vicious system of trading on credit leaves the workmen nothing for themselves on pay-day.

The subject thus opened would be a broad one, and, as we are not disposed to make inviolable discriminations, the privilege extended to one inventor of demonstrating by figures in our columns his claim to the State bounty, must needs be given to all who might choose to ask for it, and our space is limited. We have, beside, official warrant for believing that no boat entered for trial up to the close of last season succeeded in establishing an economy over boats towed by horses, all things considered, and if none succeeded it makes but little difference which boat did the best. There is, moreover, a difference of opinion as to which record makes the best showing, and in such reports as have been sent us we notice so much to suggest doubt, if not to invite disproof, that we could not do them justice without giving rise to what might become an interminable and profitless discussion. For the present the public are satisfied with the general fact that no boat yet tested has established a claim to the favorable consideration of the Board of Commissioners appointed under the act of 1871, and that, unless the Legislature shall extend the time for experiments, the coveted \$100,000, which so many inventors have already promised to divide with those who have furnished them capital, will remain securely locked up in some strong box in the State Treasury.

The Profit of Gold Mining.

The question of whether gold mining pays in the long run, is not a new one, but those who have asserted that it does not have usually supported their assumption by the most general and inconclusive arguments. A sample of this kind of reasoning is found in a paper lately read before the Farmer's Club of Oakland, Cal., by Dr. E. S. Carr, who affirms that every dollar of gold mined has cost a dollar and a half to mine it. Dr. Carr estimates that 50,000 men are engaged in gold mining in California alone, producing \$20,000,000 in 1872, and the labor of these men at \$2.50 per day is worth \$37,500,000 in a year. From this he reaches the conclusion that the difference between the value of the gold product and the value of the labor employed in producing it represents the net loss resulting from gold mining. The error in this reasoning is apparent. Of the 50,000 men engaged in gold mining in California about 23,000 are Chinamen, whose labor does not possess a market value of \$2.50 per day. Of the remaining 27,000 it is probable that not more than 25 per cent. employ their entire time in gold digging, and to the value of the gold product must be added the wealth annually created by the opening of new and productive sections to settlement, by increased trade and transportation, and by the growth of towns in mining districts. It is chiefly, if not wholly, because of gold mining that California has become great, populous and wealthy. State within the memory of the present generation, and to make the showing a fair one, a very large part of her accumulated wealth and annual production must be added to the \$20,000,000 which represents the yield of her gold mines. We do not believe that gold mining adds as much to the national wealth as iron mining in proportion to the capital invested and labor employed, but both are useful productive industries, and neither cost as much as they return.

The Thermometrical Averages of Past Winters.

The following table, compiled from the records of careful and accurate daily observations of the thermometer for a series of years, will be found interesting. We omit fractions of degrees in the monthly and general averages, adding one for all fractions above one-half.

Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Monthly Average.	Average per month.							
			1864	1865	1866	1867	1868	1869	1870	1871	1872
26	26	26	26	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
31	20	25	29	21	27	27	29	20	22	27	27
39	21	27	32	21	27	27	29	20	22	27	27
29	20	22	26	23	27	27	26	23	25	27	27
26	23	18	22	23	20	22	26	23	25	27	27
26	30	29	28	30	33	26	30	27	29	29	29
30	33	26	30	30	33	26	30	27	29	29	29
29	23	24	27	25	23	24	26	23	25	27	27
26	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
23	24	23	23	24	24	23	24	23	24	23	23

From this it will be seen that the past winter, so far as New York is concerned, has averaged much colder than any winter since 1864, with the single exception of that of 1867-8. This fact is quite in accordance with the average experience of the past season, and there is much cause for congratulation in the fact that the season of snow and ice, of obstructed travel and general discomfort, is so nearly over.

The Sheffield Telegraph says: The demand for coal in Sheffield, both for manufacturing and household purposes, is extraordinary, the colliery proprietors and agents having orders on their books which will take them some weeks to execute. So urgent in fact are the requirements of the public, that many firms have determined to reduce the pressure upon them by raising the price 1s. 6d. per ton to all but their regular customers.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Iron Ores in the James River Valley, Va.

LYNCHBURG, VA., March 8, 1873.

To the Editor of *The Iron Age*:—As you take a lively interest in whatever relates to the increase and development of the great industry of which your journal is the representative, I desire, through your columns, to direct the attention of iron manufacturers to the supply of iron ores to be found in the James River Valley. The magnetic and brown hematite ores are the most abundant, and are to be found in immense quantities a short distance from this city, and within easy reach of the canal or railroad. There has been but little demand for these ores hitherto, and consequently they have been but slightly developed, though sufficiently so to establish the great extent and value of the deposits. These ores are of excellent quality, easily mined, and accessible to transportation by both rail and water.

There are but few iron works of any description in the James River Valley. Richmond and Lynchburg each have several foundries and rolling mills. Between this city and Richmond there are but two furnaces, and one above here now in operation. Of course, the present demand for ores is very small, and, in consequence, the price is low. Contracts may now be made with responsible parties to mine and deliver brown hematite ore on the bank of the canal for \$3 ton. Magnetic ore would command something more. To any parties who may desire to invest in such iron properties, either for the purpose of erecting works or for mining the ores, this valley affords great attractions. The extension of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad down the James River Valley (which must be completed at an early day) will bring these iron ores within easy and cheap connection with the coal of the Kanawha Valley. The time is not distant when the iron properties of this valley, which can now be bought for trifling sums, will be among the most valuable in the country.

Our people have neither the means nor the practical knowledge to embark extensively in such undertakings, and are looking abroad for those who will come and reap the harvest. As an indication of the interest felt by the city of Lynchburg on this subject, I send you with this a copy of a pamphlet (with large inclosed map of Virginia), entitled "Resources and Advantages of Lynchburg, Va., and tributary country, prepared and published by order of the city council of Lynchburg." I will also send a copy of this pamphlet to any one interested in this subject, who will write to me for it.

I will further add that our city council has adopted an ordinance exempting from taxation by the city, for ten years, all capital employed in new manufacturing enterprises.

W. B. ROBERTSON.

Scientific and Technical Notes.

Mr. Henry Elbreg, of Terre Haute, is now exhibiting at St. Louis a working model of

A NEW COAL MINING MACHINE.

It is run by compressed air, and requires the attention of only two men. It moves automatically on rails, and does the work known as "cutting under," and makes a groove only two inches wide. As operates with the pick cannot work to the required depth without making a breach of eighteen inches, it saves a large percentage of coal from being worked into slack. The price of a full sized working machine is \$600.

Experiments have recently been made by Capt. Treve, at the Brest Foundry, France, on

THE EFFECT OF MAGNETISM IN CASTING STEEL, which have determined that a condensation of the metal takes place under such circumstances, the grain becoming finer and closer. The mold in which the steel was cast was a large coil of stout wire, through which the electric current from a dozen Bunsen couples was passed during the whole period of cooling.

Among the novelties which we glean from English scientific journals is

A THREE CYLINDER ENGINE,

in which the three cylinders are disposed round the crank-shaft at an angle of one hundred and twenty degrees to each other, each cylinder being provided with a deep but light piston, from which a connecting rod is led to the crank common to all. One of the connecting rods has a single eye at the crank end, while the two other rods are forked at that end, the fork of the one being wide enough to take hold of the pin outside the other, so that the center lines of the rods are all in the same plane. The cylinders are all open at their ends, and when the engine is at work the steam from the boiler has free access to the central space, so that it tends to force the three pistons outward uniformly. The admission of the steam to and its release from the outer ends of the three cylinders is effected by a single revolving slide-valve, which works against a face at one side of the central chamber, being carried around with the crank-shaft.

As there is, necessarily, some throttling in the steam passages, particularly when the engine is running fast, the pressure of the steam at the outer ends of the cylinders never equals that in the central chamber, and hence the pistons are always forced outward.

A very interesting invention, lately developed by Mr. Brownell, of Hartford, relates to the PLATING OF METALS WITH NICKEL, GOLD OR SILVER.

He puts a thin plating of nickel or gold and silver to other metals, and then melts it in, so that, while the surface is of the color and char-

acter of the plating, the latter so permeates the main metal that it neither scales nor wears off. Nickel applied to the linings of boilers, to the sheathing of ships, to the coating inside and out of gun and pistol barrels, prevents oxidation, lime incrustations, or any detrimental soiling, while it keeps the surface smooth, clear and bright. The expense of this method of plating is only a quarter of one per cent. additional; and if, as seems quite certain, it proves practicable on a large scale, this mode of coating coarser metals with finer will find new and larger applications.

The American Gas Light Journal says that a course of experiments has been instituted by two Italian investigators, to determine

THE EFFECT OF DIFFERENT COLORED LIGHT UPON RESPIRATION.

The animal to be experimented upon was placed in an air tight box into which no light could penetrate except such as passed through glass of a given color. Air freed of carbonic acid was constantly admitted into the box, and escaped by a second opening, where it was passed through a vessel which contained some absorbent of carbonic acid, so that its amount could be accurately determined. Representing the quantity of carbonic acid respired by a dog in a given time, under white glass, by 100, the amount given off under black glass was 82.7; under violet, 87.7; under red, 92; under yellow, 103.7; under green, 106.0; and under blue, 126.8. The difference was still greater when the experiment was tried on a pigeon and on a hen. The authors came to the conclusion that green and yellow rays, which are the most important to the vegetable kingdom in taking up carbonic acid, are also most favorable to the respiration of animals—that is, enable them to give off the most carbonic acid.

A very valuable invention for

ECONOMIZING FUEL

is described in the Sheffield and Rotherham (Eng.) Independent. It consists of a system for intensifying the heat of the heating furnaces employed by the steel making, tube rolling, and similar manufacturers, by the introduction of steam into the fire through brick chambers in solid bottomed grates. It has recently been adopted throughout Yorkshire, Lancashire, South Staffordshire and London. At the Earl of Dudley's iron works, in Staffordshire, a furnace has now begun to be used by which a saving of fuel to the extent of 10 cwt. to 13 cwt. upon every ton of iron produced is effected. Eight "heats" are brought out in the time usually consumed in making six heats. This is made possible by the adding to the furnace a heating chamber, in which the pig iron intended to be puddled is heated by the flames of the furnace on their way to the stack. At the same time that the consumption of fuel is reduced very considerably, the "yield" of puddled iron is considerably increased and the quality improved.

An important

IMPROVEMENT IN THE MANUFACTURE OF IRON SAFFES,

is said to have been made by Mr. J. F. Elwell, of Birmingham. The body is constructed of solid Staffordshire boiler plates, varying from a quarter to three-quarters of an inch in thickness. These plates have dovetails cut out all round the edges by the steam shears. They are then united into the square of the safe, and the dovetails are hammered out into a spread form. Beneath these dovetails, running all round inside the body of the safe, is strong angle iron, which is riveted through to the plates. The back is united in a similar way, therefore the whole of the body is dovetailed together. The deep chamber inside is filled with a mixture, in certain proportions, of sawdust and a chemical vaporizing compound. This renders the safe entirely fire-proof, the theory being that immediately the outer plates of the safe become red hot, this chemical liquifies, wetting the sawdust and giving off a vapor through the interior of the safe, rendering the whole contents unflammable. Mr. Elwell's patent principle for securing safety is very simple. It is merely a series of butt hinges, made of best malleable iron, of great strength. Half the hinge is secured to the door, and the corresponding half to the body of the safe. As the door closes these hinges (or "lugs") close into each other, and by one turn of the knob in any ordinary safe, a bolt 6 inches long, $\frac{1}{4}$ inches of an inch diameter, is shot through every lug, these bolts being fixed by turning the key of the patent lock, which acts on the stop of the throws. Thus the safe is immovably pinned together all round. Instead of the bolts depending on the body for strength, as in all previously constructed safes, they give strength and solidity to it. It is evident that to pry or force the sides, top, or bottom would simply be an impossibility, as the wedge, the crowbar, and all other force is entirely deprived of action. The doors are made of two solid boiler plates, of great strength, intersected with a chilled steel plate throughout, rendering them drill proof. The "lugs" are fastened to the door and body with an amount of strength which would resist almost any amount of force were it possible to apply it to them, and none of these fastenings come through the outside.

The public are warned against paying money in

advance for the insertion of advertisements, or other matter in works published by us.

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Of superior quality,

MANUFACTURED BY

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Store No. 118 Chambers Street.

Our REGULAR SALES of HARDWARE, CUT LERY, FANCY GOODS, &c., will be held on TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS throughout the season.

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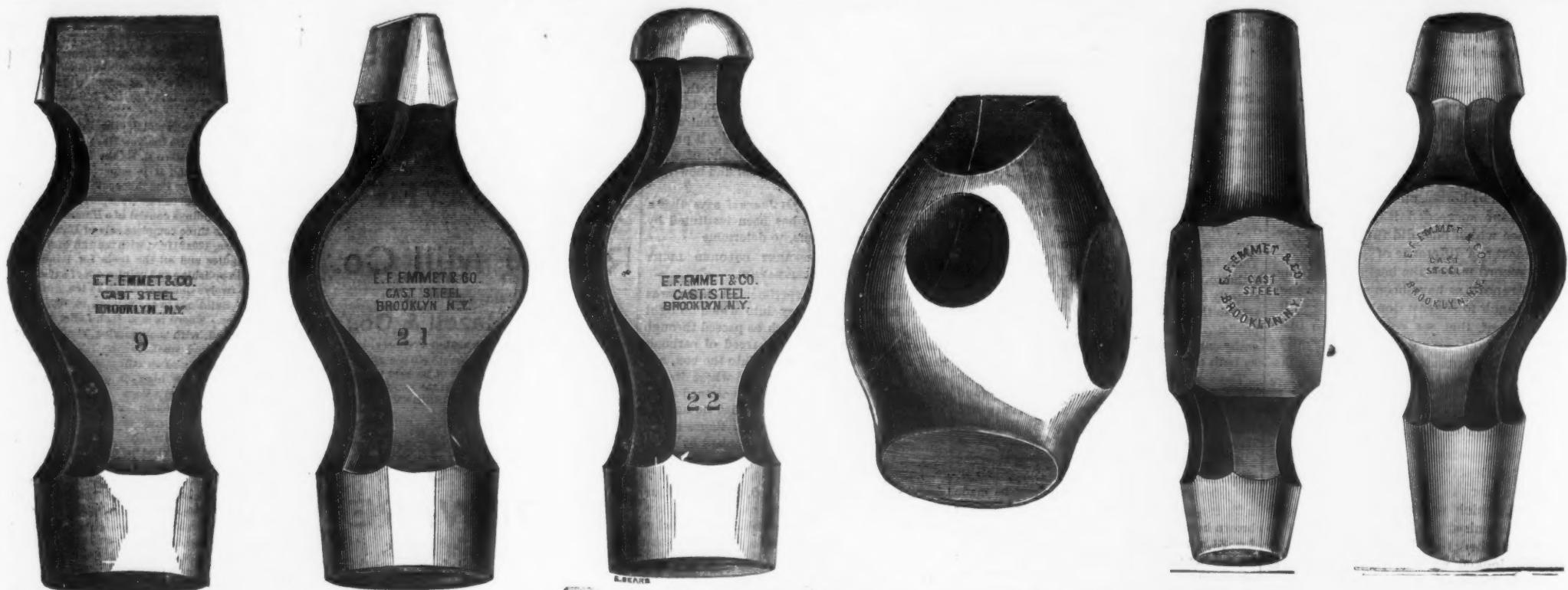
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Special attention given to orders for California and export trade. We are prepared to fill all orders promptly.
Send for Illustrated Price List.

JOHN CRANE, Agent.

Warehouse, 105 Reade St., N. Y.



Our English Letter.

Review of the British Iron, Hardware, and Coal Trades.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

SHIPFIELD, February 13, 1873.

If you have any spare poetic genius, or super-abundant talent, on your side of the Atlantic, I would recommend that it be instantly employed in the composition of a soul-stirring parody on the well-known lines—"Water, water everywhere, and not a drop to drink"—said poesy to have *coal* for its theme. You cannot possibly conceive how popular such an embodiment of universal sentiment would be. I am afraid you don't appreciate roaring coal fires in the States.

You have never known what a cheerful blaze

coals at \$24 per ton will give out, and I am

afraid you will never sufficiently approve my

truthful candor, when I say that we Britons

feel a glow of warm feeling and cheerful pride

in contemplating the proudly-recorded fact that

our coals are to be found in all quarters of the

globe. Does it matter one jot to us that our

own poor are starving, really starving, because

they cannot get fuel at reasonable prices? Not

at all. If British commerce be extended and

upheld, and free trade be scrupulously ob-

served, what matters it? Obviously nothing.

We have an immense surplus population—and

as a matter of course, the poor must *expect* to

go to the wall first—so says the rich coal owner

and money-making coal merchant. With the

general public it is different, and, further, it is

becoming desperate. In London the recent

great advances are most seriously felt. Coals

are being sold there now at from 42s. (lowest

price) to 50s. per statute ton of 20 cwt. Derby-

shire and South Yorkshire coals realize the

average figures, and Wallsend, which profes-

sionally comes from the Newcastle district, com-

mands the top price. Some people, I think

rather too strongly excited ones, think that £4

per ton will yet be reached on the London Coal

Exchange, and assert that orders can hardly be

booked under £3 for future delivery. I must

beg to differ from these pessimists. It would

pay at £3 per ton to import French, Belgium,

or even American coals—in fact, it is rumored

that some capitalist have already arranged to

import very heavy quantities from Belgium.

The medical officer for the Marylebone district

—not, I may say, one of the poorest in London—

in his health report, says that, owing to the pro-

minent high price of coal, many of the destitute poor

are enduring great privations. He says that

"at the best" of times they get but a scanty am-

ply of nourishing food to create animal heat,

and, with the present low temperature, ill-clad

and practically without fires to warm them, it

seems almost too much to hope that the amount

of animal heat necessary to sustain life can very

long be maintained." Poor people are driven to

desperate measures. Some have stolen fuel,

and when brought up at the police courts have

told honest straightforward stories, which have

moved the representatives of the blind goddess

to reduce the penalties to the lowest possible

figures. In Lancashire the cotton trade is be-

ginning to be seriously affected, and in some of

the iron districts the price of fuel tends to

greatly limit transactions. In the North of Eng-

land some 300 puddling furnaces are this week

being damped out, that number being equal to

one-seventh of all the puddling furnaces in the

district. One of the leading collieries near Shef-

field is sending every ton it produces into Egypt,

and another firm, not far from this town, are

said to be clearing over £120,000 per annum.

Report speaks—and I hardly doubt its credit-

ability—of profits of over one million pounds

sterling made last year by a nobleman who has

the good fortune to be a mine owner! At

Jarrow, on Wednesday last, Messrs. Palmer

blew out one of their blast furnaces, it being

impossible to work it, save at considerable

loss. The railway companies suffer pretty heavy

by this impost. Last week, the chairman of the

South-Western Railway Company, speaking

at the half-yearly meeting, said he "began to

think that coal was perfectly a luxury. The

increased prices would cause considerable em-

barrassment to various trades and manufac-

tures, and great privation to the lower classes.

If some check could not be put on it, millions

of persons must be thrown out of employment.

If ever there was a case for government inter-

ference, this was one. If this state of things

was allowed to go on, the prosperity of the

country would be destroyed!" Most people

would indorse this opinion, if asked. An ex-

pert duty appears to be the most feasible reme-

dy, but it is thought that this country is, by its

commercial treaties, precluded from imposing

any such duty till the expiration of the tradi-

tion in 1876. If this be so, and I believe I am

correct in saying it is, it behoves the govern-

ment to take some steps in the matter. I am

afraid, nevertheless, that Mr. Gladstone is far

too deeply engrossed in cleansing what he vainly

imagines to be the Irish augean stable of "re-

ligious inequality," to be touched by the actual

and heart-rending misery existent within three

miles of his London residence. At Nottingham

a mass-meeting of workingmen has been called

to consider the alarming increase in the price of

fuel, coal having gone up 2s. or 3s. per ton in

one week. On Saturday last, Mr. Philip Casey,

one of the secretaries to the South-Yorkshire

Miners' Association, which numbers some four-

teen thousand or fifteen thousand members,

spoke at Sheffield, and, as his remarks are ap-

ropos to the subject, I give them at some

length. He observed that in 1868 he was re-

ceiving 11½d. per ton for coal produced, and

had to pay his own filler and trammer out of that

amount. Since that time, he believed the miners

had got something like 37½ per cent. over that

sum, and the total advance had been about 50

per cent., or £1.6d. per ton. He wanted those

present to understand that it was not the miners

who had got such exorbitant advances on coal.

The advance gained by the miners was some

thing like 6d. per ton, and if 1s. per ton was

added for the other men, he fearlessly asserted

that that would cover the advance the colliers

had received in this district. It was reported

that the miners were making 10s. a day, and no

doubt some were making that sum, but many

were making a deal less, and when coals had

been advanced from 4s. 6d. or 5s. to 15s., 16s.,

and £1 per ton at the pit mouth, the coal own-

ers must be getting the lion's share. The coal

supply was not equal to the demand, and, in

consequence, the owners had been able to push

it up to its present price, and they could scarcely

wonder at it. The demand had been so great

that venters had offered 4s. per ton over the

published price if the coal-owners would supply

them, and they said, "We should be foolish if

we did not accept it." The colliers of this dis-

trict had had an advance of 37½ per cent. per

ton; but 37½ per cent. upon 1s. or 1s. 4d. per

ton was very different from 150 per cent. upon

5s. or 6s. per ton obtained by the coal owners.

Those present must not be surprised if the col-

liers "want in" for another advance, in a week

or two, for they believed it belonged to them,

fairly, and they ought to have it. It was not

the increase in the wages of colliers that caused

the present high prices. It was a fearful thing

to think that 50s. per ton should be paid for

coals in London, when they cost 2s. per ton at

the pit mouth, and the carriage was 8s. per ton.

The coal merchants of London realized a profit of

£1 per ton upon all they sold; and he ven-

tured to state that such a thing was monstrous.

It was a position in which the combination of

circumstances had placed those men, and they

were doing their utmost to make the best of it.

The following figures will enable you to form some idea of the export coal trade of the United Kingdom: They presented some diminution in January, having amounted in that month to 793,227 tons, as compared with 842,328 tons in January, 1872, and 559,690 tons in January, 1871. In these totals France figured for 206,217 tons, against 253,630 tons and 105,677 tons respectively; but the exports to Germany in January were only 40,174 tons, against 36,836 tons and 21,880 tons respectively. The exports increased in January to Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Holland and British India; but they decreased to Russia, France, Spain, Italy and Brazil. The value of the coal exported from the United Kingdom in January was extraordinarily heavy, being £834,598, as compared with £469,028 in January, 1872, and £240,671 in January, 1871. In these totals France figured for £205,235, £124,103 and £17,341 respectively.

In Northumberland there are 164 collieries, and in Durham 140, a total of 304. In 1871 the returns for 1872 not being yet available, these pits sent out 29,190,916 tons, which was thus disposed of. Coal exported to foreign countries, 289,314 tons—computed as coal, 482,190 tons; coal sent coastwise, 19,035 tons—computed as coal, 31,675 tons; coal carried from these coal-fields by railway for local and land sale, 2,161,020 tons—computed as coal, 3,601,700 tons; coke carried south of Alton, 1,182,160 tons—computed as coal, 1,970,266 tons; coal and coke for railway use, the coke computed as coal, 591,779; colliery consumption estimated at 1,450,000 tons; domestic consumption and coal used in local manufacture, 3,250,000 tons; total, 29,190,916 tons. It will thus be seen that the requirements of foreign countries absorb more fuel than any other source of demand. Coal sent coastwise is another formidable item, the metropolis being the chief consumer. From the Tyne alone, in 1871, 2,334,218 tons of coal were forwarded to the ports of the empire, while Sunderland sent out 1,665,951 tons. When the returns for 1872 are issued, they will, doubtless, show a very large increase even upon these bulky figures, which will demonstrate why it is that the supply has so suddenly fallen below the demand, causing the present famine prices.

The Welsh strike is somewhat more shaky than when I last wrote you. Yesterday (Monday) morning, the 4000 men employed by Messrs. Brogden, at Llyndy and Ogmor Works, resumed work, terms being that the men work at a five per cent. reduction until March 1st; from March 1st to March 29th, at the old rate of wages; and from March 31st to July 5th, at five per cent. advance upon the December rate. This is a matter of course, in no way effects the other iron masters, but, as a precedent, I expect to see a pretty general movement in the same direction. On Saturday, 8000 pounds were brought into Merthyr by the agents of the miners' union, but that sum, when divided amongst so many, is a miserable pittance. The London trade council, the South Yorkshire unions and other trades organizations, support the men, but it may be judged how bad is the case, when I say that of 10,000 miners who struck only 7000 were unionists, and of 50,000 iron workers only 3000 were entitled to support from the amalgamated association of iron workers. It is saying a good deal for the men, when it is recorded that, despite a wages' dispute is probable in the preparation of Musket's special steel. This M. Gruner believes to be by the use of a very pure steel, made from a very superior quality of iron; tungsten being reduced with cemented steel made from the finest Swedish brands of iron. This, at least, in the process now and for a long time followed at the Maisons-Alfort Ironworks for the manufacture of tungsten steel, by M. Mazeline Flis and his predecessor, M. Miclon, at St. Etienne."

There is still a good trade doing in steel rails, tires and other railway requirements, but some of the cutleries branches are slack. As chronicled above, a wages' dispute is probable in the coppers department. The American houses are particularly slack just now. Edge tools are in request, and the armor plate mills continue fairly busy. Files and saws are yet inquired for, and the sheep shear makers are doing a good stroke with Australia, New Zealand and South America.

In the Wolverhampton and Birmingham districts a fresh advance of finished iron has taken place, this time to the extent of 20s. per ton. Earl Dudley and Messrs. Barrows took the lead, and the remainder of the trade have followed. Earl

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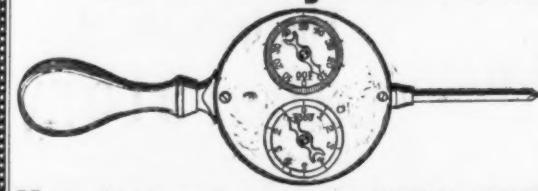
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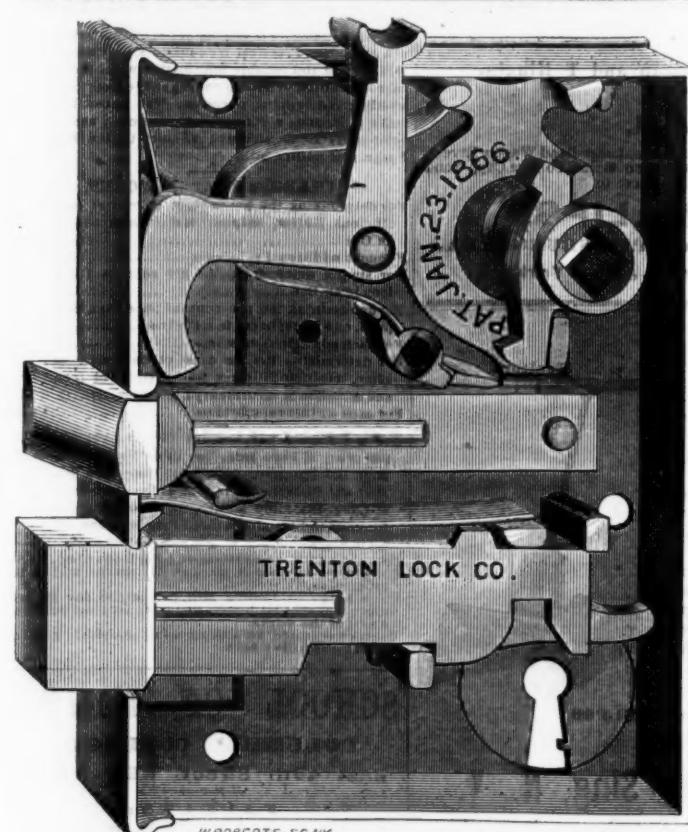
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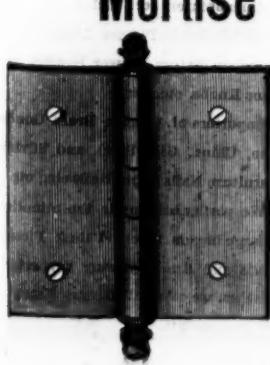
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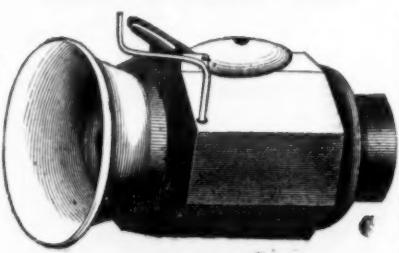
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WHISTLE MOUTH-PIECE.



Water Meters.

BY JAMES A. WHITNEY, M. E.

Few topics of a mechanical character have been more bewritten with diminutive results than that indicated by the caption of this article. Every large city in the civilized world has been compelled to provide works for the supply of water to its denizens. Sometimes, as in New York, this has been done by the municipality; sometimes, as in London, by private companies. In either case the difficulty of setting a check on consumption has acted as a premium on waste. Twenty years ago the report of the Croton Board (New York city) called attention to the fact that "a very great proportion of the water placed at the disposal of the consumer is used for no valuable or practical purpose." During the intervening period scores of inventions designed to measure the flow of water from the branch pipes of the mains and from the faucets of buildings have been devised. Of these, perhaps one in ten possessed merit enough to entitle it to thorough trial, but not one in fifty has secured any permanent foothold, as far as extended use or general introduction is concerned. But even the poorest of them would have saved at least a portion of the 60 per cent. of the water supply which is calculated to be the proportion of annual loss. Even this, high as it is, is probably below the actual ratio. An estimate made some ten years since, and based upon returns from six of the principal cities in the United States, showed the average actual cost to the city to be 8 mills per hundred gallons, while the average charges to consumers were 32 mills to the hundred gallons—the difference indicating the presumed difference between the quantity used and that supplied. But despite this high ratio of water rates, the water boards of most cities have, at one time or another, suggested the use of meters—a remark especially applicable to Chicago, where the expense of water raising and distribution resolves itself into a question of coal and steam engine repairs, and is, therefore, pretty accurately known. It may be remarked, in passing, that a surplus of water has been known to produce some notable and unlooked for results, as, for instance, in Glasgow, where the opening of the Loch Katrine water works is said to have reduced the consumption of soap to the extent of a quarter million dollars of our money the first year.

I am not now speaking in favor of any particular meter—not even in favor of any particular system. After having examined many models, I am decidedly of the opinion that not one meets all the requirements of a perfect meter, and I doubt very much whether any one can be suited to all conditions of water measurement. The apparatus that will measure accurately under a uniform head will fail under a variable pressure.

The small device fitted for a dwelling will scarcely, in its construction, suit the requirement of the three, four or six inch pipe leading to a dye works, paper factory, or like industrial establishment. Considered merely with reference to their uses, water-meters, if ever permanently and widely introduced, will probably be classified for streams of, say, one-half inch diameter, for ordinary faucets and the like; those for pipes ranging from one to two inches diameter, and used in the supply of tenement houses and hotels, where measurement for each particular outlet would be impossible, and for steam boilers requiring more than the smaller pipe could supply; and those of the greater size required by manufacturers, etc. Mechanically considered, the most available varieties of meters are the dumping meter, in which a vessel of known capacity is automatically filled and tilted to pour out its contents thus measured; the rotary meter, in which vanes or wings, either spiral or radial, moving on a central axis, are acted upon by the flow of water, a certain amount of flow through a space of known diameter producing one revolution of the device; and the piston meter, in which a piston is moved to and fro in a cylinder, by water admitted alternately at its opposite ends, in a manner similar to the action of steam in an ordinary engine, the capacity of the cylinder, minus the space occupied by the piston, being the measure of the water admitted and expelled at each stroke of the latter. The moving parts in each one are connected with simple clock-work mechanism moving under fingers arranged in due relation to dial plates, to record, as the case may be, the tiltings of the dumping vessels, the revolutions of the vanes or stroke of the piston.

In the adaptation of meters to the various conditions of water measuring, I am disposed to think that a somewhat bulky, but efficient, device for faucet use could be constituted by combining the ordinary spring or closing faucet with a dumping device, the former preventing neglect to shut off the flow when not required; the latter measuring the quantity actually used. This apparatus would be independent of the head. For the second-class of uses, the rotary meter, although not the most accurate, works with less friction than the piston meter, and would, all things considered, probably be preferable. The range of improvement, real or alleged, is greater in this than in any other kind of meters, for we have only to reverse the action of almost any rotary pump, and fit it with a registering mechanism, to convert it into a very tolerable rotatory water measurer. So also with a rotary steam engine: fit it with an index device, and turn a flow of water instead of steam through it, and the transformation is complete. Rotatory water meters possess one advantage over others, in the facility with which their most important parts can be shaped, by turning in a lathe either of special or ordinary construction.

For the larger pipes, two to six inches in diameter, I should recommend a piston meter, especially if the flow have any material degree

of pressure; for when of large size the friction is in proportion to the volume of water passed, is much diminished. On these there is some chance of profitably employing a modification to which, thus far, I have not referred. This is the differential meter so called, in which small but ascertained proportion of the flow is diverted to a measuring and recording device, to be taken as an indication from which the entire volume passed may be calculated.

These remarks have been called forth as a *propos* at the present time, when even the New York city charter is sought to be made the means of securing the adoption of a special and particular meter, a matter which, it may be readily inferred from the foregoing, seems to me impolitic and contrary to the best interests of the public, and to the great number of inventors who have devised methods more or less complete for water measurement. No meter is exact in its work, but for all practical purposes a close approximation to accuracy is sufficient. This is given by more than one or two of the meters now before the public, and it would be well if a certain standard of efficiency were established, and each water consumer left to select a meter for himself, provided it gave a reasonably accurate return of the volume passed through it.

A Peruvian Railroad.

A correspondent of the *Boston Globe*, writing of the Oroya Railroad, in Peru, says:

San Bartolome, forty-six miles from Lima, is another station. Its only importance is, that here the great retrograde to gain elevation is made; for the road, after running back a short distance, only returns some eight hundred feet above. As there is not room to make a sweeping curve, the road forms a V, at the apex of which is a turntable. Shortly before reaching this the engine is uncoupled, and, running on the table, is reversed. It then runs along on a side track to a switch, and by this backs down to what is the rear of the train, which now becomes the front. Between San Bartolome and Lureo, a distance of ten miles, the great labor of the enterprise has to be performed, there being fifteen hundred feet of bridging and twelve hundred feet of tunnelling between these places. To give you some idea of the magnitude of this enterprise, I will describe the bridge that spans the Agua de Verrugas, a wild torrent that runs through a picturesque glen situated some 12,000 feet above the level of the sea.

This extraordinary bridge was constructed by the Baltimore Bridge Company, and its dimensions have attracted general notice. It is remarkable for being the highest of its kind in the world, and for surpassing all others of the same class in its perfect system of bracings and connections. It is a viaduct structure, consisting of four deck spans, of the Fink truss type, three of which are 110 feet long, and the fourth and central span being 125 feet long. These spans rest on piers formed of wrought iron columns, and these piers are fifty feet long by fifteen wide on top. These piers are the principal features of interest, and are respectively 145 feet, 252 feet, and 187 feet. They each consist of twelve legs, forming a rectangle.

Transversely, the pier has the appearance of an inverted W; two legs batter in and two out. The outer legs have a batter of one foot in twelve, and the inner are inclined so as to make the above-mentioned shape. There are three of these W's in the pier, each containing four legs making twelve in all. One of the most interesting features of this gigantic structure is the raising. The piers are raised within themselves, tier upon tier, the only power used in drawing up the material being a common windlass. The entire viaduct is five hundred and seventy-five feet long, and is not only the mode of crossing best adapted to the situation, but it is also the cheapest that could there be used.

Meeting of the American Rail Manufacturers' Association.—A meeting of the American Rail Manufacturer's Association was held on Friday last, in Philadelphia. Mr. Geo. R. Wood was appointed chairman, and P. E. Chase, secretary. The draft of a constitution was read and adopted, and the secretary was directed to place it before all the owners of rail mills in the country, with the request that they sign it. Letters were read from various members of the association approving of the new organization. The proposed constitution of the American Iron and Steel Association was read for information. The secretary was requested to visit or correspond with all the rail mills of the United States, to obtain full and complete information regarding them, and have the same ready to report to the next meeting. A resolution was adopted providing for the appointment of a committee of five for the purpose of securing concert of action among all the associations of the country representing the iron and steel interests, and bringing about the formation, under proper rules, of an organized combination thereof. S. M. Felton, E. Y. Townsend, Joseph Wharton, W. C. Cox, and A. J. Dull were appointed the committee. Adjourned to meet at the call of the committee.

It is proposed to form a joint stock company in Virginia, to be known as the Echoes Iron Company, for mining and selling ore, and manufacturing.

In Oregon, forty miles north of the capital, there has been discovered, on a small stream called the Molalla, a large vein of cinnabar, said to be much more extensive than any yet opened in the United States.

One hundred and nineteen thousand dollars have been subscribed toward a blast furnace at Duluth. It is intended to have the works in operation before the end of the summer.

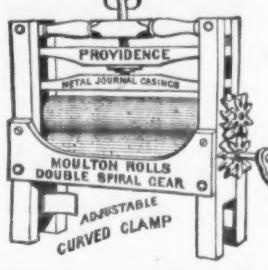
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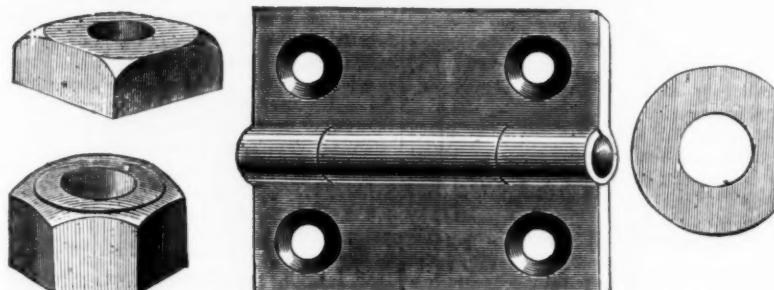
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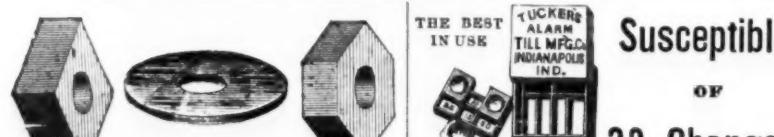
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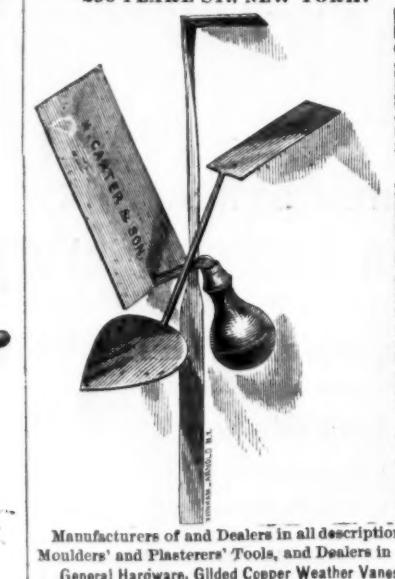
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Lime, Insoluble Matter, Oxide of Iron and
Alumina in Limestone; and Pure Iron and Sul-
phur in Slags—number of samples limited to 20). 200

For each additional substance (in Pig Irons \$5.00). 1.5

For a larger number of samples the charge will be in
proportion.

For a Forge or Rolling Mill, per annum, the charge
must necessarily depend upon the size and require-
ments of the works.

The time required for making a full analysis is usually
from three to five days.

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Schmidt, Kusterman & Co's. Tin Review
(Translated for The Iron Age.)

PENANG, January 18, 1873.—*Tin.*—Soon after the last mail had been dispatched, a declining tendency manifested itself, and nothing could be done except to meet a speculative inquiry for India at \$34.50 @ \$34 per picul. Subsequently, however, a better demand sprang up for Europe and the United States at \$35, to be followed by a relapse into apathy, winding up with sales at \$34.50 @ \$34.60. While finishing our dispatches, the market is again firmer at \$35 per picul. There are speculative holders of large amounts of tin kept out of the market. *Exchange* has been rising, and finally declining again; 4, 5, bank and commercial, six months sight.

Rautenberg, Schmidt & Co's. Singapore Metal and Coal Review,
(Translated for The Iron Age.)

SINGAPORE, January 16, 1873.—*Iron* is quiet, and without dealings. *Tin* is coming in in moderate quantities, and there being a brisk demand, prices are on the rise at \$35 @ \$35.75 per picul, equal to £140 14 @ £143 15 per ton, cost and freight. The market closes firm. *Coal*, considerable arrivals have taken place, but the offerings are, nevertheless, sparing. Sales are reported of 1500 tons Cardiff at \$11 per ton, 3 months, and subsequently 1350 tons at \$11.75, 3 months.

Siemssen & Co's. Shanghai Metal and Coal Review.
(Translated for The Iron Age.)

SHANGHAI, January 2, 1873.—*Metals* have been on the whole rather quiet, although European telegraphic accounts ought to produce a different state of affairs. The quotations are the following, nominal ones: Best Dawes Nail Iron, 3-45 to 3-60 taels; common brands, 3-15 to 3-20; Rod Iron, 3-20 to 3-30. L. B. Lead, 4-85 taels. *Tin Plates*, neglected, and nominally 8 taels. English *Quicksilver*, 76 1/2 taels; California, 70 to 80. *Coal*.—The market is dull, as heretofore, and the sales are insignificant: Cardiff, 9-75 taels; English, 9-50; American, 9-50; Sydney, 9-25; Newcastle (New South Wales), 8-80 @ 8-90; Japanese, 4-75; Formosa, 5 per ton.

The Rhenish Metal Market.

(Translated for The Iron Age from the "Frankfurter Zeitung.")

COLOGNE (PRUSSIA), 16 Feb. 1873.—*Copper* and *Tin* have remained quiet, but firm, while a lively demand continued to prevail for both *Lead* and *Spelter*. We quote Scotch *Pig Iron*, 29 1/2 @ 33 taelers; English, 24 1/2 @ 25 1/2; Banca *Tin*, 51; *Bilington*, 50; *Lamb*, 50; and *Copper*, 31 @ 33. All other metals unchanged.

The Dutch Tin Market.

(Translated for The Iron Age from the "Frankfurter Zeitung.")

AMSTERDAM, 18 Feb. 1873.—There has been great quietness in *Tin* during the week, and but a couple of hundred slabs Banca were taken, a on the spot, at 85 guilders, at which there are more sellers. Nothing is doing in *Bilington*, which may be had at 83 @ 83 1/2 on the spot, and as Feb. sale at Batavia, loading there per steamer, it can be bought at 82 1/2, and afloat, soon due, at 83 guilders.

The Belgian Metal Situation.

(Translated for The Iron Age, from the "Frankfurter Zeitung.")

LEIGE, February 15, 1873.—Notwithstanding the exorbitant prices which have been reached both by coal and cokes, it seems that consumption is unrestrained, the demand exceeding production all along, and the tendency of prices remains a rising one. *Pig Iron* is exceedingly scarce, and some particular brands are in great request. It is different, however, as regards nails and wrought iron. The nail manufacturers suffer from the extreme rates which the raw material now commands, and the same relates to other branches, paralyzed from the same cause. A colossal movement of emigration is developing in our midst, and will have a detrimental effect upon *Tin* production, now already put to a great stress by reason of a short supply of hands to work the mines.

Metal Matters on the Belgian Frontier.

(Translated for The Iron Age, from the "Frankfurter Zeitung.")

CHARLEROI, February 15, 1873.—*Metals*.—The demand for *Pig Iron* is not over brisk just at present, consumers restricting their purchases to the immediately indispensable, in hopes, as they are, that prices will give way shortly. Producers, on the other hand, cling to prevailing rates with the utmost tenacity, and one of the works has made several contracts at 19 francs. Wrought Iron is steady at 32 francs as a basis, but this cannot be got with ease in all cases. *Tin Plates*.—A large business is growing up, and a rise of some importance seems to be impending. It will not last long, and we shall have risen above 40 francs. *Coals* are as firm as ever, although there has been a falling off in the demand for some kinds. Cannell coal is in great demand.

Arnold, Karberg & Co's. Chinese Metal Review.

(Condensed for The Iron Age.)

HONG KONG, Jan. 8, 1873.—*Metals*.—Although business in this line has been quiet, prices have been well sustained, and the tendency at the close is a decidedly firmer one. Stocks are not large and holders are consequently reserved, the following quotations being more nominal than anything else: Nails, Iron, \$3.50 to \$3.80; Rod Iron, English, \$3.50 to \$3.65; Swedish, \$4.10 to \$4.40; Hoop Iron, \$4.60 to \$4.80; Iron Wire, \$7.20 to \$8 per picul; Steel, \$4 to \$4.60 per tub; Common Lead, \$6.20 to \$6.30; L. B. \$6.35 to \$6.40; W. B., \$6.50 to \$6.60 per picul; Spelter, \$35 to \$36 per picul; Tin Plates, \$9 to \$10 per box; Quicksilver, English, \$9.50 to \$9.80; California, \$9.50 to \$100 per picul. Sales: 436 piculs Nail Iron, 508 Hoop, 100 Iron Wire, 60 piculs Common Lead, 400 L. B., 100 piculs Spelter, 250 cases Tin plates, and 60 piculs English and 400 piculs California Quicksilver.

The Dutch Tin Market.

(Translated for The Iron Age from the "Nederlandsche Courant.")

ROTTERDAM, Feb. 18, 1873.—*Tin*.—Quiet is the predominating feature of our market, and but a few transactions took place on the spot at \$35.50 and \$85 guilders, for Banca.

The Chili Copper Market.

(D. Shute & Co's. Review Condensed for The Iron Age.)

VALPARAISO, Jan. 31, 1873.—*Copper Bars*.—A lively business has been done in this article in consequence of the more favorable advices from England. There prevails great competition to buy, which circumstance enabled holders to raise their price to \$19 per quintal, cash on shore here. For Lota and Urmeketa, \$20 per quintal, free on board, has been paid. Sales, 31,382 quintals. The market closes firm, but nothing is offered. *Regulus* had been rather

neglected, and only during the last few days holders succeeded in getting 10c per quintal more than the figure we quoted in our last. Transactions embrace 39,500 quintals. *Ors*.—No sales. We quote nominally \$3 1/2 @ \$3 1/2 per 25 per cent.

COPPER REPORT OF CHILI.

	1869	1870	1871	1872
Quintals	Quintals	Quintals	Quintals	Quintals
Export	1,211,200	1,084,768	909,310	1,022,383
Loadings Dec. 31.	170,923	92,588	126,229	65,586
Charters to Jan. 14	29,160	29,779	31,373	39,969
	1,411,288	1,207,388	1,067,114	1,162,428

Freights well sustained, notwithstanding a good supply of tonnage. Nitrate to Liverpool, £2.15s. Copper to Swansea, £2.13s. 9d. Exchange, 45d, 90 days sight.

Charles Thore & Co's. Japanese Metal Prices Current.

YOKOHAMA, Jan. 22, 1873.—*Metals*.—Sales of N. R. Iron only to be reported.

	Deliv'ries.	Stock.
Iron Flat and Round	\$4.00 to 4.70	piculs. piculs. piculs.
Nail Rod	3.60 to 4.80	
Hoop, no stock.	840	6,680
Pig, nominal.	1.25 to 1.30	
Wire.	9.00 to 10.00	

Dummeller & Co's. Java Metal Review.

BATAVIA, Jan. 8, 1873.—*Metals*.—Swedish Iron is in fair demand. English remains about the same as last quoted, and few transactions are reported. Copper and Steel are quiet. *Iron Nails*.—Dealers are still supplied, and as yet no sales have transpired.

J. W. Muller & Co's. Chinese Metal Telegram.

(Communicated to The Iron Age.)

SHANGHAI, Feb. 17, 1873.—*English Nail Iron*, 29 1/2 taels, against 33 Jan. 31st. L. B. Lead, 5-10 taels against 4-85. Spanish *Quicksilver*, 78 against 77. Raw Japan Copper, 16.75. Exchange—5 10% against 5 11 1/4.

Antwerp Metal Market.

(Translated for The Iron Age from the "Revue Commerciale de Maritime.")

ANTWERP, Feb. 21, 1873.—*Metals*.—The market is devoid of dealings from lack of supplies, the arrivals having been limited to 5818 tons *Pig Iron* from England, and 133 ingots *Copper* from the same quarter.

The Price of Coal at Pittsburgh.—A meeting was held on Saturday morning by the coal operators doing business along the different railroads and rivers, at the office of Thomas Fawcett & Son, on Water street. There was a full representation present. Mr. Simpson Horner was called to the chair, and W. A. McIntosh elected secretary. The secretary read the scale of prices adopted February 21st, 1873, by Billiton, which may be had at 83 @ 83 1/2 on the spot, and as Feb. sale at Batavia, loading there per steamer, it can be bought at 82 1/2, and afloat, soon due, at 83 guilders.

Resolved, That the price of mining coal of standard thickness (four feet), should be ninety cents per ton from February 1st to October 1st, and one dollar per ton from October 1st to February 1st. When miners are paid one dollar per ton for mining coal, to receive five cents extra for every three inches the vein is less than four feet.

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Resolved, That our business be conducted with a view to fixing the standard price for mining at four cents per bushel at all mines on the railroads, thus making the price uniform with the price of mining at the river mines, commencing not later than April 1st, 1873, and that the officers of the Railroad Coal Producers' Exchange be requested to call a meeting on Tuesday next, to take definite action, and fix the time at which the reduction shall take place.

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The resolution was debated at length by the members present, after which the following preamble and resolution was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, the maximum price paid for mining has been (4) four cents per bushel for mining years prior to last fall, at which time a number of operators were compelled to accede to a demand of an advance to (5) five cents per bushel, owing to the temporary necessity of manufacturers and private consumers, and whereas the demand for coal, both for home and foreign trade, has since materially decreased and whereas the profits of the business are so small as not to remunerate us for conducting the same when paying over four (4) cents per bushel; therefore

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The meeting then adjourned.

On the 14th of February the leading iron masters of South Staffordshire issued circulars to the trade in which they say: "We have this day advanced our prices of Iron 20/ per ton from our circular of January 31st." This step has been taken in consequence of communications having been this morning received from Earl Dudley and Messrs. Barrows, who now lead the changes, announcing that orders can now be executed subject only to special arrangement as to prices, or at the prices current at the time of the delivery of the iron.

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The Pacific Rolling Mills.

The *Mining and Scientific Press* says: The Pacific Rolling Mills, of this city, are the only works of that character on the coast, and as such represent a very important branch of industry. They manufacture railroad and merchant iron, steamboat shafts, cranks, pistons, connecting rods, car and locomotive axles and frames, and hammered iron of every description. They have lately been making considerable additions to their machinery, etc., in order to keep up with their orders. The mill is now quite busy, running nine furnaces on iron beside those on bolts, spikes, etc. They have three trains of rolls, two 18-inch and one 8-inch train, driven by an engine of 200-horse power. Since our last visit they have added a new rivet machine and one large punch, capable of punching a nut for a 1 1/2 inch rod, cold. Also, two small punches, for washers and small nuts. This makes altogether seven punches on the latter class of work. An axle-turning lathe and an axle-centering lathe for cutting off any shafting cold, have been added, made at *Bement & Dougherty's Industrial Works*, at Philadelphia. A new bolt-header, that will make a bolt from three-fourths of an inch to one and a half inches, is running, and four machines for cutting bolts have lately been added, making altogether, in the bolt shop, nine machines. They employ boys altogether in this department, there being, with those in the mill, twenty-five employed. They have just built a new machine for cutting threads in nuts, that allows one boy to run twelve taps.

They are now turning out nearly forty tons per day of bar iron, and are working night and day shifts. Nine furnaces are running, with four on bolts, railroad-spikes, etc. About seventy boxes of railroad spikes, thirty boxes of rivets, and fifty boxes of fish-joint bolts per day are turned out, the latter finished with thread and nut. In the machine-bolt line they can turn out about four thousand bolts per day, with nut and dressed head.

About thirty-five tons of coal per day are used at the works, all of which comes from Australia in vessels, and is unloaded at the dock in front of the mills. There are five steam-hammers and five engines in the mills, and eleven boilers; one new boiler is now being made. Steam is made in most of them from the fires in the furnaces, at no additional cost. About two hundred and fifty men are at work at present in all the departments, including the bolt, forge, blacksmith, carpenter shop, etc.

A Practical View of the Chinese Labor Question.

The Economy Society, of Pittsburgh and vicinity, which seems to be an industrial or trade union, has been inquiring into the employment of Chinese at the Beaver Falls Cutlery Works. From the report made by the Society Committee, it appears that about 120 white persons and 190 Chinese are employed in the works. The men are all paid monthly, and are free to leave whenever they choose. The report goes on to say:

We have been unable to find that the directors have, in their action, or in their management of the business, violated any law or any rights of any party, but if such should be the case the courts are open to decide it. When the present board of directors took upon themselves the management of the company's business, which was only done as a last desperate effort to save it from utter ruin, they found it in a deplorable condition, heavy losses having been sustained and its capital greatly impaired. The previous efforts to save said cutlery may be well likened to the efforts of a crew on board a sinking ship freighted with a valuable cargo. They applied to their next kinsman, who, indeed, seemed willing to aid, on condition, however, that each should receive a certain portion; but upon reckoning being made it was found the preferred aid would cost not only the whole cargo, but require the ship and quite an addition beside. In this dilemma but one of the two things remained to be done—stop the works at once and entirely, which would have discharged every employee and entailed great injury, if not ruin, upon the interests of the place, or do as was done by the managers, call upon these men to do a part of the labor and strive to continue operations.

The committee think that the employment of Chinese labor is not unlawful, and that no rights have been violated by the cutlery company. The Pittsburgh *Dispatch* says that the report of the Economy Society has had a disturbing influence, and adds:

Some of the gentlemen who control the adherents of the not-to-be-peaceful view are men of a good deal of ability and influence, and it is understood that they have already decided upon attempting another plan. A bill will be presented to the Legislature asking that a heavy State tax be imposed on corporations using Chinese laborers. If this is ineffectual, which it is most likely it will be, other schemes will be tried, but violence will be decried at all times. The principal persons who still hold against the Society are the other property owners and real estate dealers not connected with the manufacturing interests, and the farmers living within eight or ten miles of the place. The workmen in the manufactories other than the cutlery works, who number about 300, have never taken the initiative, but have thus far been led by these. They will still be counseled and not act rashly.

Charles Betts, a well known iron worker, who superintended the construction of the Stevens Battery, and a number of the largest iron-clads built during the war, died on Thursday at his residence in Bridge street, Jersey City.

The new sheet and boiler iron mill, in New Castle, Pa., will be completed by the 1st of July next, it is expected.

Fire Brick.

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New York Fire Brick &
STATEN ISLAND
CLAY RETORT WORKS,
Established 1845.

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ENGLISH
FIRE BRICKS

And Clay Retorts.
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240 & 242 Front St., NEW YORK,
Are constantly receiving all the best brands of
Foreign Fire Bricks, Clay Retorts, Fire and
Crucible Clays, Portland and
Roman Cements,
etc., etc., which they offer in lots to suit, from store or
to arrive, at greatly reduced prices.

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CRUCIBLES.

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being confident of giving entire satisfaction, we re-
spectfully ask consumers to give us a trial.

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Rathbone St., Albany, New York.

PALMER, NEWTON & CO.,

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and size, for Rolling Mills, Blast Furnaces, Gas
Works, Lime Kilns, Glass Works, etc., etc.
Blast Furnaces, Glass Works, Stone, Lime and Boiler
Linings; Fire Clays, Kaolin for Fire Clay, Fire Cement,
by cargo or barrel. Orders filled on short notice.

Philadelphia Fire Brick
AND

Clay Retort Works,
AND KENSINGTON FIRE BRICK WORKS

Office, 23d and Vine, Philadelphia.

PHILIP NEWKUMET,

Successor to JOHN NEWKUMET, Proprietor,

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for Rolling Mills, Blast Furnaces, Foundries, Gas
Works, Lime Kilns, Glass Houses, &c., &c.

Articles of every description made to order at
short notice, and in a very superior manner.
CLAY RETORTS FOR SUGAR HOUSES.

TRENTON
Fire-Brick and Terra-Cotta Works.

Fire-Brick, Blast Furnace Blocks

Or all shapes and sizes, Fire Clay, &c.
Stoneware, Drain and Sewer Pipe, from 2
to 16 inches Bore. Terra-Cotta Chimney Tops, Chim-
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JOHN E. WATSON, Perth Amboy New Jersey,
Manufacturer of

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For Rolling Mills, Blast Furnaces, Foundries,
Gas Works, Lime Kilns, Tanneries, Boiler
and Grate Setting, Glass Works, &c.

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ESTABLISHED 1846.

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FIRE BRICK

of reliable quality for all purposes, manufactured of the
best New Jersey Fire Clays. Also, MINERAL KNOBS
ROCKINGHAM WADE, Fire Clay, Fire Sand, Kaolin
and Ground Fire Brick.

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BRICK PRESSES,

For Fire and Red Brick.

PATENT STEAM GEARING

For grinding Clay for Red or Fire Brick, and all
kinds of Brick Machines in general.

Works, 1819 Germantown Ave., Phila.

GEO. CARNELL.

Oldest and Largest Establishment of the kind in the U. S.

F. L. & D. R. CARNELL,

1814 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia.

Manufacturers of Pennsylvania Brick Machine,
Little Giant Pipe Machine, Fire and Red Brick
Presses, Clay Wheels, Tile Machines, Stampers,
Grinding Pans. Brick Yards fitted out for running
by steam or horse. Heavy and Light Castings. Send
for circular.

BRICK PRESSES

For Fire and Red Bricks.

BRICKMAKERS' TOOLS.

Factory, 309 South 5th St., Philadelphia.

Established 1844.

S. P. MILLER.

THE IRON AGE.

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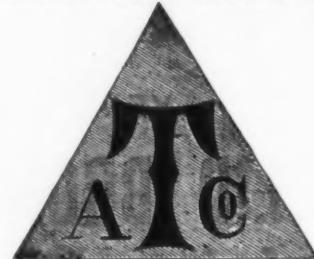
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Black and Tinned Trunk Nails, Miners', Gimp, Lace
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Barrel Nails, Glaziers' Points, Iron, Steel, Copper,
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It is entirely free from acids—so efficient it is

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Parties trying this compound and finding it other

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All I ask is a fair trial, and insure satisfaction.

I will send to any party as many pounds as they need for trial, and

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1-5 of a pound for each horse power for first trial; after, 1-8

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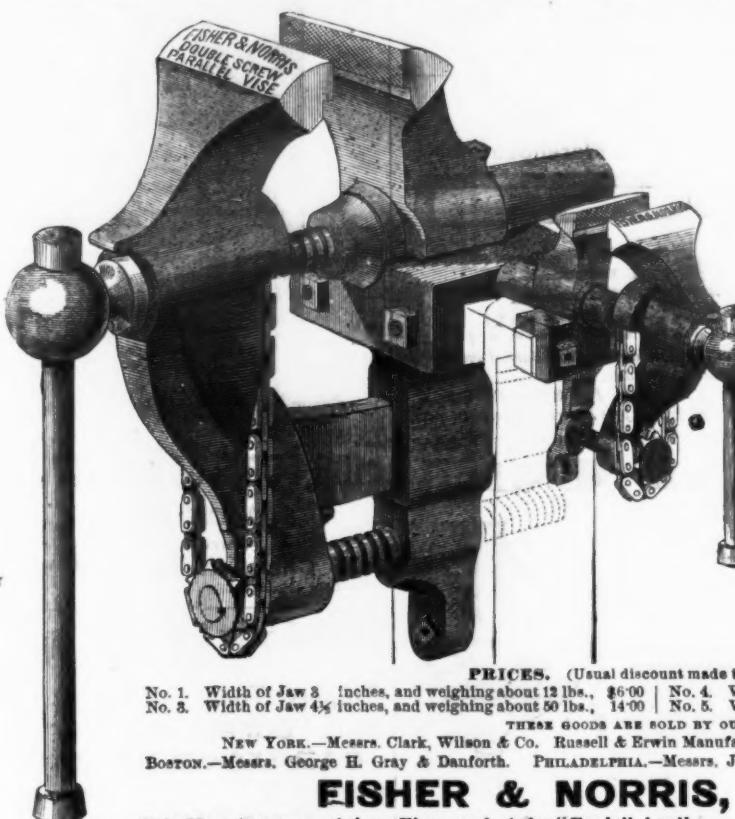
We have also commenced making a very superior Coach Makers' Vise. Our new Hand Vise is made of Solid Forged Steel, retailed at \$2.00, and is meeting with universal favor. We find on careful investigation that by the pound we are selling lower than any other good Vise can be bought.

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THE DOUBLE SCREW PARALLEL VISE.



More than twenty-five years' use of this Vise by Machineists, Tool Makers, Locomotive Shops, &c., has established its superiority over every other.

It is the only one which has all the strength and "grip" of the ordinary English Vise; and at the same time with the jaws parallel at every point of opening.

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The Screws are forged of the best refined iron, and work in solid cut thread boxes. The Jaws are faced with best Tool Steel, welded on, file cut, and properly tempered for wear.

The Chain is very carefully made of case hardened inside links and rivets, and, acting only to regulate the position of the lower screw for different points of opening, has no direct strain of the work upon it; it is therefore as durable as the other parts.

Only the strongest material is used in this manufacture, and from actual experiment on the six inch jaw vise, which has screws of 1 1/2 inch diameter and lever 19 inches long, it has been found that applied at the lever Screw, it required to break either of the jaws, eleven and one-half tons, thus exhibiting a maximum strength far above any other vise of like size.

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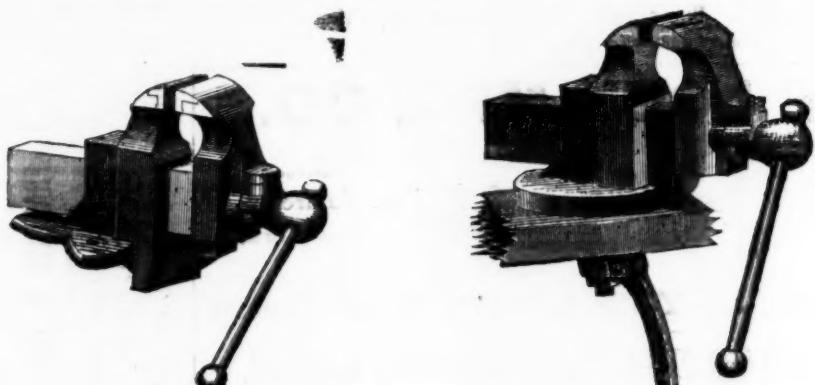
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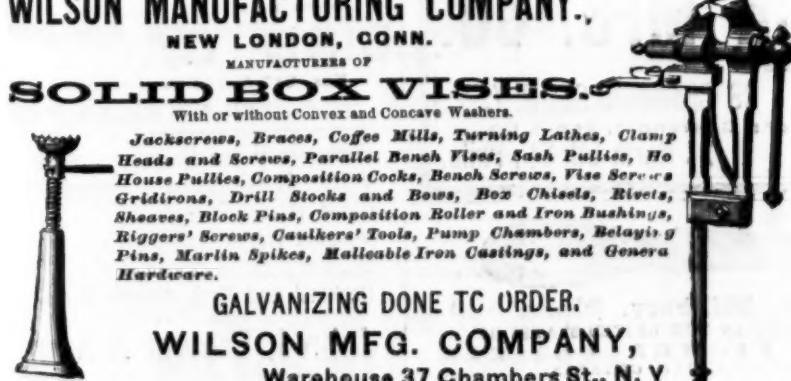
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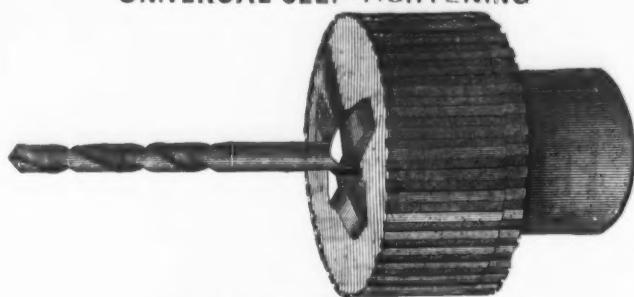
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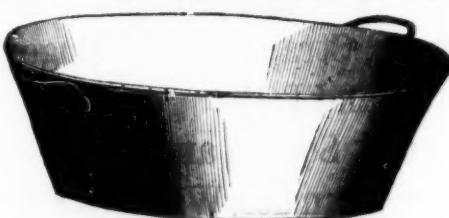
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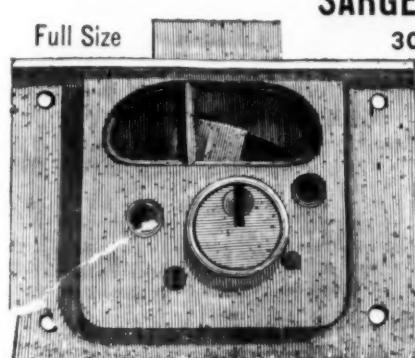
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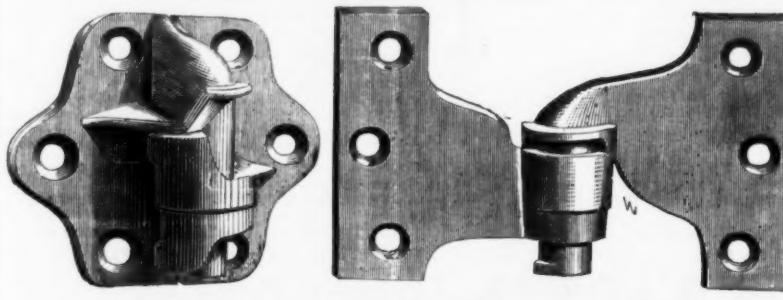
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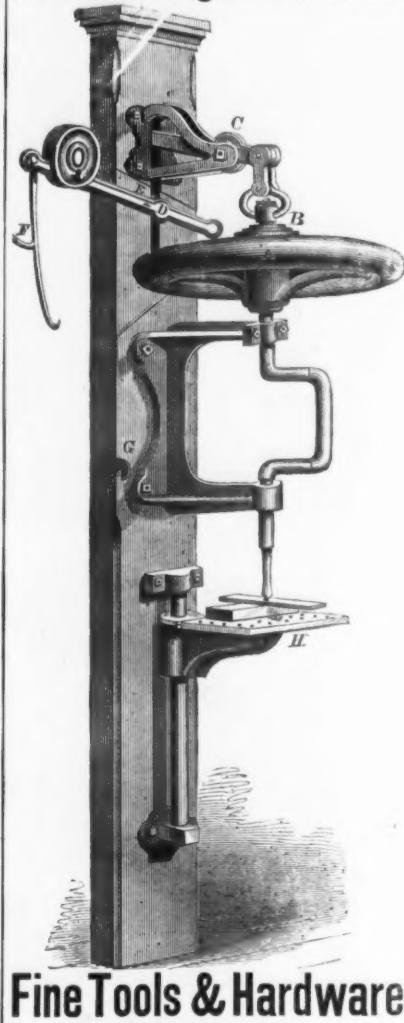
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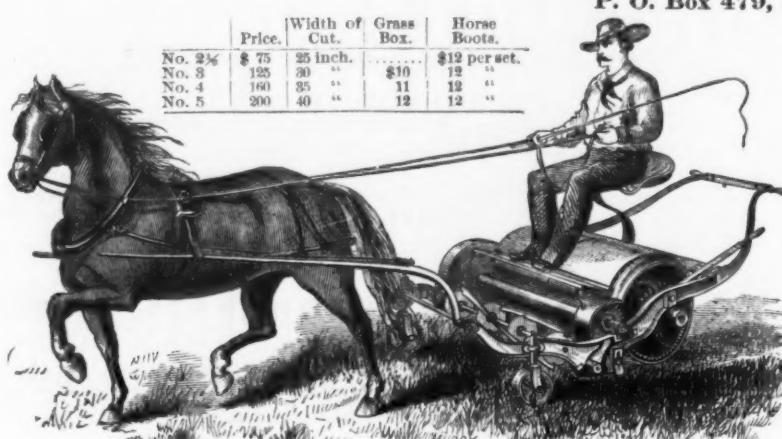
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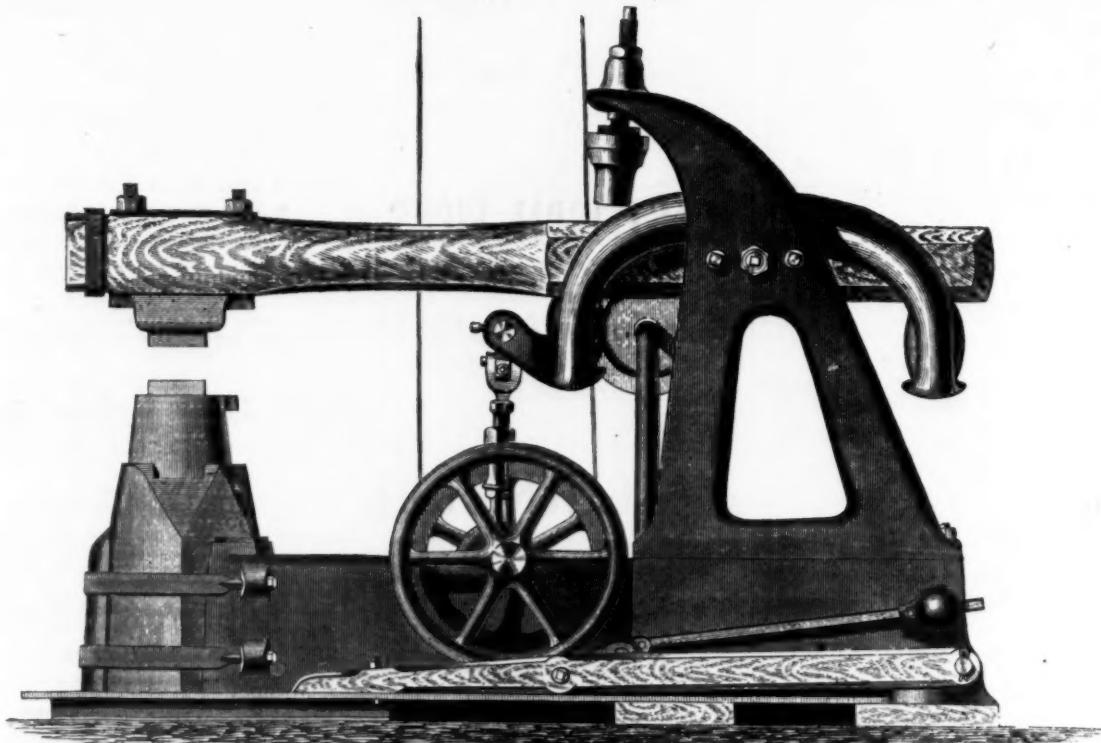
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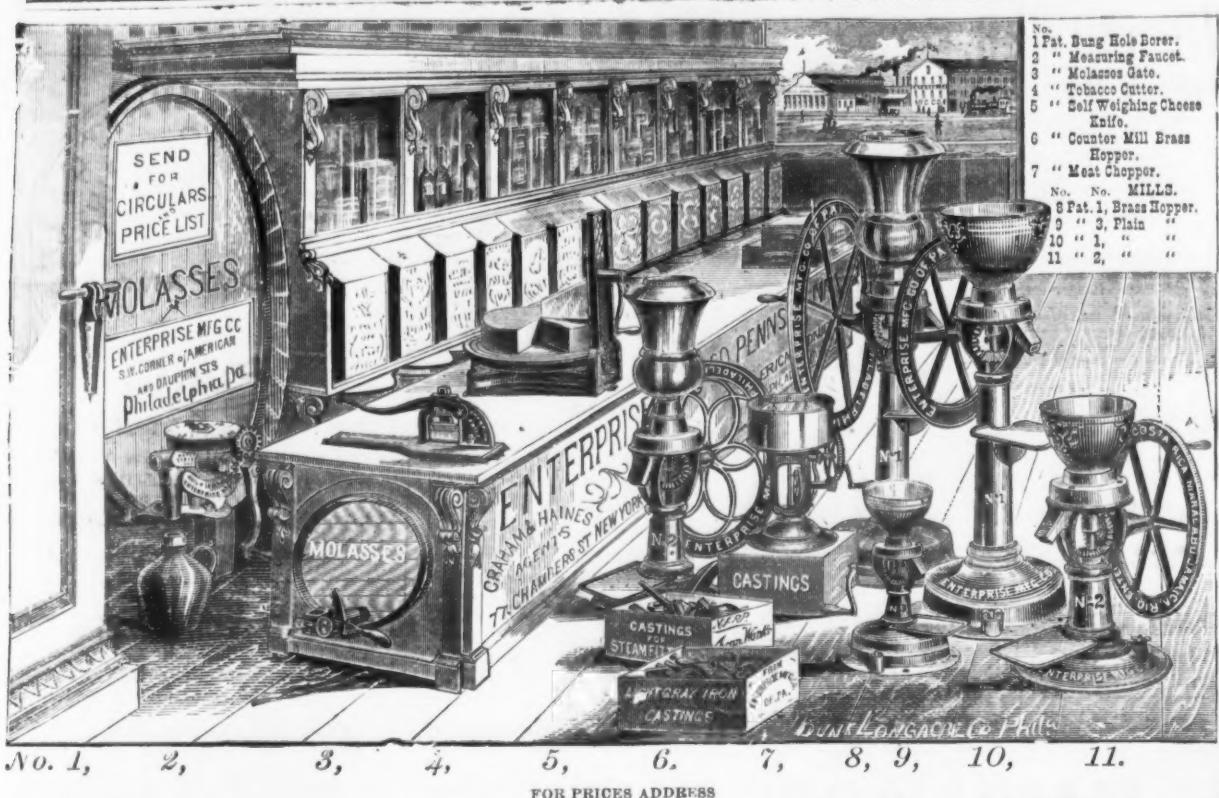


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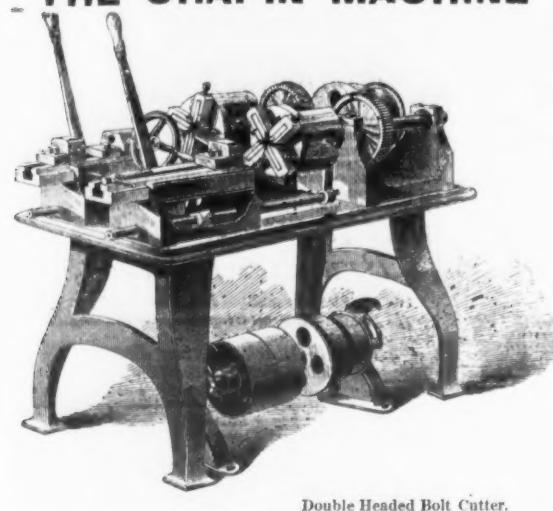
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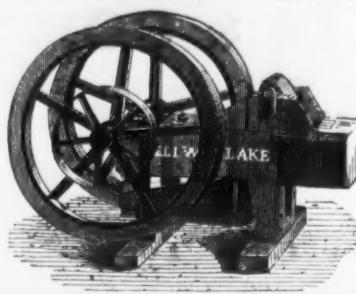
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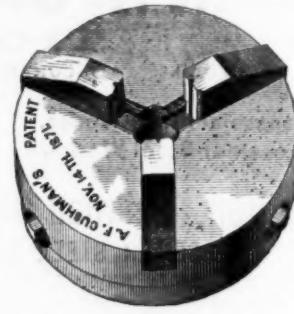
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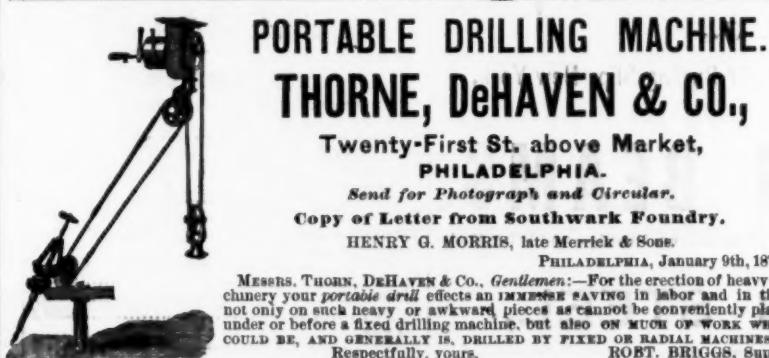
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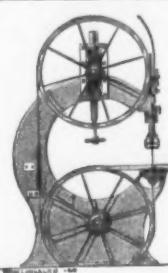
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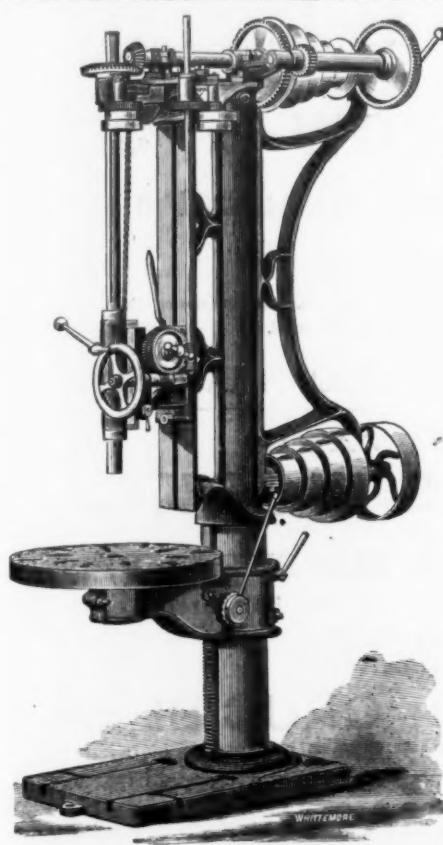
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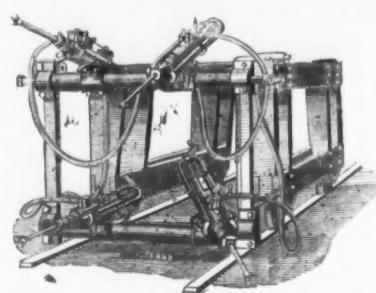
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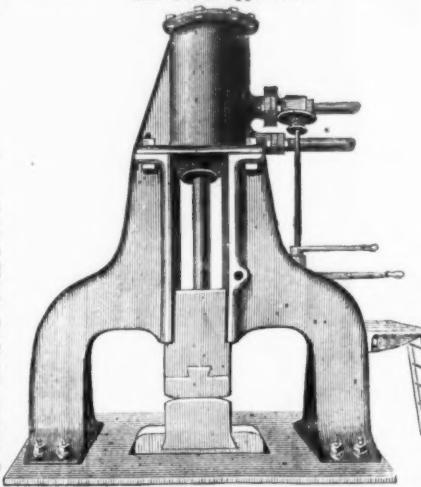
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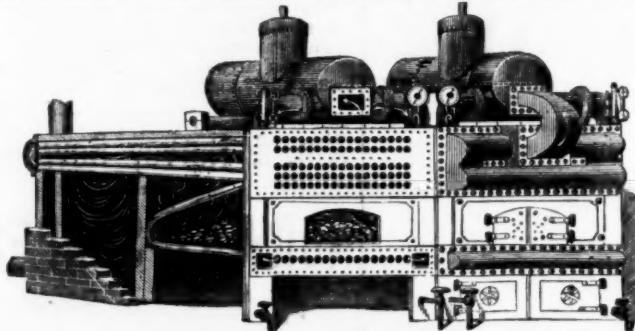
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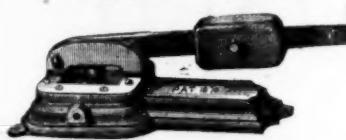
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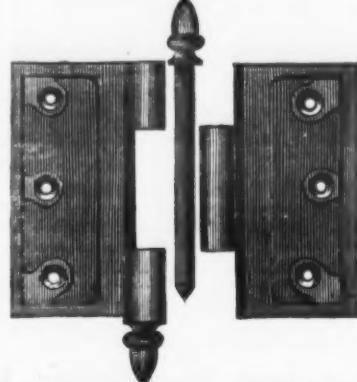
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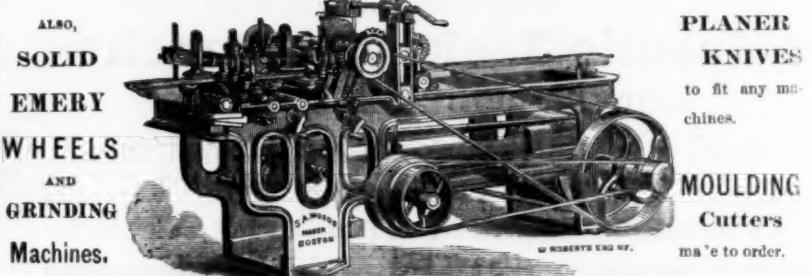
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